

藤谷ある

イラスト／三嶋くろね



Ore no Real to Netgame ga Love Comedy ni Shinshokusare Hajimete Yabai

Volume 1

by Aru Fujitani

Novel Updates

Translation Group: [MofuMofu Translation](#)

Epub: [Trollo WN/LN EPUB](#)

Chapter 1: Not good, I Suddenly Got Confessed To

“I love you”

I hoped to be able hear that sentence even once.

A confession from your dream girl.

A sudden confession from a girl that you’d always thought to only be your childhood friend.

Or a surprise confession from a fateful meeting.

There were a lot of different kinds, but in order to make the event happen, you needed to raise the affection of the opposite party.

But in reality, there was no sign that show that this event was about to happen. Absolutely nothing. It was nothing like in romance manga or gal games. Furthermore, from elementary school to middle school, I went to an all-boy school so I had never known how to socialize with a girl.

I had a younger sister at home, but she could not be view as a target. Although she was only a cousin.....but this kind of thing was still impossible in reality.

However, now that I had stepped foot inside this high school → my first gender-mixed school, that event must be happening soon.....

What? Hey, I was just telling you a fantasy story.

In the end, nothing has changed.

If I had to give an example of what are my relationships with the girls, you can imagine it as a piece of barren land where even cactus could not sprout. A desert without oasis. Or you can imagine it as a worm that got fried under the sun. (And I didn’t know if the worm can still survive then.)

From now on there would be even more struggles. I could not imagine an encounter with a girl.

But this was also fine.

3D girls were not important. Because I could not know what were they thinking. They were like a completely different species, troublesome, annoying, and worst yet...

They could not live up to your dream!!

Huh, let's forget those things, because I have found a better relaxing place for myself...

However!

For some reasons that I, Sagimiya Keita, was suddenly get caught in a "confession" event.

A person with a silky brown hair had just said "I love you" in front of me. That person was having a natural smile, exposing clean white teeth.

Body was a little slim but tight, confidence face with loud voice.

That's right...that person was a "guy".

Furthermore, his entire body was covered in shiver armor looking really epic.

He stepped a foot onto the sidewalk of the square that can directly look at the wharf and continues with a weird posture.

"I think it is best for you to go out with me."

I didn't know why but...I felt his way of talking is a little bit arrogance.

Of course I didn't like such a thing. And I was sure he also did not mean to say "let's go on a date?". It was just because he did not know the truth.

How could this happened? You can understand if you take a look around.

This was a European-style brick paved street.

People walking around were wearing different kind of armors, capes, and weapons on their waist. This clearly as a virtual world.

It was because I was inside a MMORPG "ZX Welt Online".

Although the art style of ZX Welt Online as designed based on anime, but I could feel like it was real. From strains of hair to the avatars, everything looked

really natural. When think about it, although it was a little weird but because of it that I was able to truly feel like a citizen of a 2D world.

All of this was due to the support of the next generation gaming equipment, “ESG” (Entertainment Station Gear).

I had thought that the ability to Full Drive to a virtual world was just fantasy. But it was no longer a fantasy once you wore the ESG.

Because things like setting up and wiring were not as complicated as building a robot so they were fairly easy. But its advanced structures did cause a little trouble for amateur like me.

And this was how my avatar look like in this world.

I looked at a statue made out of crystal in the square.

The reflected image showed a quiet girl covered by gown and garment of a female priest. A girl with a petite body, fragile with a neat atmosphere that caused everyone want to protect.

Yep, surely you have already understood?

People like me online were called “nekama”

Female avatars that were control by guys, some exposed himself publicly, while some pretended to be girls. And I belonged to the second type. Inside ZX Welt, I named myself “Riel” and acted as a humble female player.

Disappointed with the real world, I had yelled “I will become a citizen of 2D” like a plastic boy and stepped inside the world of ZX Welt.

TN: Reference to Luffy in One Piece.

In the beginning, my motivation to come to ZX was the cute screenshot of “Melluna”-chan, someone who was called a pro-player of this world. Now I was completely stuck here.

Before I knew it, I subconsciously modeled my avatar after my dream girl.

Because the guys kept on misunderstand that sometimes there were fishes that ate the bait.

What? Couldn’t I not say the same to the idiot that is standing in front of me?

I was just talking in general.

These guys were called “nenabe”

Note: nenabe = netto (internet) + onabe (reverse trap)

But in this case, I was sure that he was a guy in the real world. I could be sure of it due to his words and actions.

First, once he knew that I was a girl, he clearly felt some attraction.

Second, while questing, when I was worry about the reminding recovery items, he proactively escorted me back to the city.

Third, when I was not online, he kept on sending unnecessary trash massages.

...etc. If I agreed then this will become more complicate. Because I was a guy myself so I had insight to this matter. From beginning till now there were many people that behaved the same way as this guy.

These were a bunch of idiotic boys, I looked down at them while I was thinking.....Ah no, wasn't it because I was just too good at playing Riel.

Whatever, first let's find a way out of this trouble.

“Uh...um.....umm.....”

I pretended to be flustered. Pretending like I still didn't have an answer was the best way to escape this, I thought.

But in contrary to my thinking, this guy was already affirmed with a dignified face.

“While we are at it, I am not just talking about online, but in reality too.”

What the hell is this guy talking about?

I kept my face from twitching.



"I...I think this is a very happy matter but.....it is a little sudden....."

"Ah, that's right! First, we have to have a wedding, right?"

“Fueeee!?”

I reacted subconsciously.

Of course what he was talking about was the marriage system in the game, but even so it was still too surprising. Even if it was not sudden I would not like to get married to a guy. If he keeps on being clingy like this then this is no difference from harassment, I can report him to the GM (Game Master – people managed the game) to let them ban his account.

But there was one reason that made me unable to do so. What was the reason?

Because he and I were members of the same guild.

Hah? That was not a legitimate reason?

Then let me make it clearer. The guild that I joined was a place that somehow gathered a lot of players with female avatars, and it looked like that they were also female in the real world.

Later this guy, Hugues, joined. Hugues was the only member that had a male avatar in the guild so everyone in the guild paid attention to him. Furthermore, from his elegant gestures and postures, everyone called him “Knight-sama”.

Knight-sama had become an important member just like his title. He was very serious with gaming, because only someone who got called “[Haijin](#)” could find items like those. Furthermore, I did not see anyone else that had equipment like his. On my part, I didn’t know what was so good about him. A complicated person like me but still joined a female group, it was unthinkable.

But if I were to report Hugues right now and his account get banned, I might be placed under the resentment of other guild members, and there would be more Knight-sama that came confessing to Riel! On the other hand, if I were to become famous then it was not good. Everyone thought that I was a girl in reality. If something happened, it could potentially develop to a degree that we would have to dissolve the guild.

“When should we hold the wedding? It will become a special day in our life after all, right?”

Hugues kept on rambling without knowing my worries.

The first step to begin a confession was to have a private conversation, I should have been able to see where this was going from the beginning.

I thought that I need to make it clear right now. I calmly faced him

“Um...sorry. But I don’t have that kind of intention.”

“I know, you are always like that, right? I love this humble aspect of you.”

“What!? That’s not what I mean!”

“Aa, hmm hmm, I know, I get it alright. You have already picked a day, right? But because you are embarrassed so you do not say it, right? Your tsundere side is also what I love about you.”

Disgusting!! But now this idiot will not listen to whatever I say!

“LISTEN TO MEEEEEE.....”

“Hey now, you don’t have to speak loudly like that.”

“I told you that was not it (/°Д°)/ !!”

“Hahaha, you are still adorable like usual, Riel.”

In the heat of the moment I had subconsciously used my masculine way of talking. But that was because there was no way to show my frustration by moving my limbs.

From the outside, we looked just like a couple that were flirting with each other.

There were even some people who stayed behind to look. This was getting more and more out of my control. What the heck is happening...

“Ah, so sorry, but I will come back later. Time to drink tea.”

“Huh?”

Suddenly he told me that. What’s with tea? But, because I still did not properly turn him down (because he did not listen) so he would not leave me alone.

“Wait.”

“Are you afraid of being lonely?”

“Nope!”

“Haha, don’t worry, I understand your feeling. I will contact you later. Still at the same time.”

“Hey, wait a second!? Hey!!”

“Never contact me again because I do not want to see your face”, I still could not say that sentence yetヽ(#`Д´)ﾉ!!

It was too late for my inner thought to catch up to what I was saying.

A blue light as covering Hugues. I could only stand silently looking at the light effect. Then right after his figure completely disappeared.

“Aaa, bastard!!”

I bended down while holding my head.

Idiot that only does what he wants to do...

The majority of the time if I was this angry, my eyes would be on fire.

At that moment, the item “Guild Earring” on my ear brightened. It was a unique item that helped me to communicate with other members of the guild regardless of distance.

[Riel, where are you right now?]

My heart tightened when I heard that unhappy voice.

That was the voice of a member in the guild “Shizuku”. Her cool personality and nonsensical antics were characteristics of her. When standing in front of her, I felt as if she could see through everything. In all of the member of the guild, only those who were really strong dare to face her. I felt Shizuku was somewhat unique in that group of people.

We met each other when I started playing ZX, and from then on, we were always playing together.

[If you have logged in then you must give ‘only me’ a greeting first. Hey, are you listening?]

“Eh? Ah, yes yes, I am listening.”

[Or are you trying to avoid me?]

“No way! Of course forgetting to greet you is my fault. But...”

[But what?]

“Why make me greet ‘only you’?”

[Isn’t that a given?]

“No no, you don’t think saying like that is pretty weird? If I were to give a greeting then I must greet everyone, right? Besides, why do you pay so much attention to that matter?”

[You still have to ask, doesn’t I have decided to be the first person to give you “puchipuchi” when Riel-tan logged in?]

TN: It is the sound of kissing, I think.

“Fueeee!? Pu...puchipuchi!?”

[What with that strong reaction?]

“O...of course I have to reacted like that!”

[You are weird. I thought you like things that are cute?]

“It’s true that I like to listening to cute things, but please spare me the “puchipuchi” matter!”

[Mu.]

Shizuku let loose a bitter sound.

But whatever the case I still need to find an excuse first. So that I do not get interrogate further.

“So, let’s leave the greeting matter aside, now I must go hunting. So sorry.”

[Hunting? Is there a place in ZX that low attack Cleric like Riel can hunt solo?]

“So rude. Isn’t there have to be a few places if I am willing to search around?”

[Ok, you are right. ‘If you search’ then of course you will find some. But my friendlist seems to not have your name in it, eh]

“What!? You try checking again. My name clearly shows up in the guild.”

[‘Only in guild’, are you missing something?]

“Muu...sorry.”

[As the only person who has ‘a friendly relationship’ with me, you need to understand your own identity.]

“Muuuu...if that is the case then Shizuku is also...”

[Then, where are you right now?]

Crap, I got tricked!?

“Eh!? Uh...right now uh, at Prakith Plain...I think?”

[Prakith?]

I lied. It was because I wanted to hide the fact that I was going with Hugues.

At the same time, Prakith was a plain that one will encounter first once one leave the Capital. That was also an area with low level monsters for beginners.

“T-that’s right. I am hunting for Demon Sheep there.....y-you know already, although these sheep are weak but they sometimes drop sheep fur, which can also be sell, right?”

[Sheep fur?]

Her altitude seemed a little not happy.

“Y-yes. People who leveled up their Tailoring skill demanded that item a lot.”

[But, it’s strange.]

“What?”

[Since when did the Capital of Flore Kingdom have monsters, eh?]

“Huh.....?”

[Nothing, it is just that I coincidentally spotted a Cleric with poor equipment just standing around in the square next to the wharf!]

What!?

I hurriedly looked around. Immediately, I spotted the figure of a girl look in

this direction, stepping down from the stair leading to the square.

Long black hair fluttering behind. Head was wearing a small hat. Upper body as wearing a long fur jacket, hands were covered in soft gloves. Lower body was donning a short skirt decorated with cute line patterns. She was wearing a pair of leather boots, waist was hanging a belt that carried a short flute, characteristic of a Beast Tamer.

I recognized this combination of equipment. No need to doubt, that exactly was Shizuku.

After getting down from the stair, she moved toward this direction. Her figure gradually became clear.

From the characteristic of the face to body parts like hair style, body shape, height, we could customize and change color for them when doing avatar customization. Although there were no avatars that looked exactly the same in this world, but her customization was truly perfect.

Face that was just right, slim figure. Crystal white, long legs exposed underneath her short skirt. If according to me, I would wear knee socks if I had a pair of legs like that. Although white seemed to fit her leg's skin color, but black matched it better in my opinion.

“Is there something wrong with my legs””

I suddenly woke up after hearing to her normal voice right in front of me. I did not notice due to my eyes were glued to her legs.

“What!? N-nothing is wrong with then!”

“You looked at them just now?”

“N-no, there is truly nothing wrong!!”

“Even more that you were looking at them with evil intention. Aren’t there a lot of people with Yuri thought to my body.....right?”

“T-there are? Uh, that’s not it! I thought that she would look beautiful if Shizuku wears knee socks.....that’s all...”

“You like the combination of short skirt and knee socks eh? I will remember this point. Let’s put this matter aside, now, you should hurry to dive into my

chest.”

Shizuku spread her arms and waits.

“Eh!? But that matter...”

“What’s wrong? Are you embarrassed? C’mon, come!!”

“No way, no need! Seriously!”

“Hmm, truly is a frail person. This after all is just a virtual world.”

I changed my attention to her legs as I was feeling embarrassed. And then I spotted something appropriate to distract her.

“Oi...since when did Suama-chan become so cute.”

Next to Shizuku’s leg was an animal looked just like a fur ball. That was a monster that she tamed, named “Suama”. Its hands and legs were hidden underneath its fur. I only thought it looked like marimo when first saw it, but if paying close attention then one could see a small tail and a white dog-like face. It looked like it was still an infant. I had a lots of question regarding it because it was not explained clearly in the game guide.

TN: Suama is Japanese traditional cake, marimo is a moss ball

When I bent down to pet Suama, he (or is it a she!?) gave a small sound.

“Fugyurururu.”

And showed a happy expression. Truly was a good AI.

Shizuku recognized that I was trying to distract her so she just stood there with her arms folded, her face was cold like ice.

“Then, why are you avoiding me?”

She suddenly asked, cold eyes staring at me.

“What are you talking about?”

“About the issue of you lying about hunting at Prakith Plain. Don’t tell me you have forgotten? Members in the guild can know the location of each other in the list.”

“Ah, right...”

I made a rookie mistake. I could not forgive myself for this matter.

“You are doing something sneakily, right? I am suspicious...”

Suspicious eyes showed vividly on her face.

It looked like she still did not see me and Hugues alone together.

Eh? Wait a second? Shizuku’s first sentence from before was “where are you right now?”, I think. If she has looked at the list and already knew, then why did she must ask me again?

“Hey, why is Shizuku is lying to me?”

“Eh?”

When her question got answered by another question, she was confused.

“Why did you asked me where I was? Hey, are you listening?”

“Because.....it is just my habit. Normally when logged in, I want to ask where you are.”

“Even though you have checked the list?”

“It’s not like we can accurately pin point the location of everyone on the list, right?”

“Although it is so.....never mind, it’s not like you always stalking me everywhen and everywhere, right?”

“W-what are you talking about? Of course that is impossible. Hahahaha.”

Shizuku denied with a dignified face, but she looked really suspicious.

“Never mind, let’s go.”

She suddenly cut short the conversation, held onto my hand and dragged me away.

“Wait, where are we going?”

“Stupid question? Of course is to return to the guild house. Everyone have already gathered. As the guild master, isn’t it my responsibility to call you back?”

“I...is that so...”

Looked like she lost to everyone when playing rock paper scissor like usual.

“Hey now, hurry up.”

She held my hands and moved toward the guild house area.

However.....I felt touched because she held my hand. In real life, I had never held hand with another girl before.

All of these artificial sensations were pretty well-simulated through the connection of the brain.

Today gaming machine is awesome. I could only say so. Yes! Because I could freely change my voice so, *‘being a Nekama is awesome.’*

Although was dragging my hand at the front, sometimes Shizuku would turned around and looked at me.

When I asked “what’s wrong?”, she answered “nothing” and turned back around.

We arrived in front of a small stone house. Without saying, this was the location of our guild, guild house.

When created a guild with more than 2 people, you could have a house like this one. Decorated according to interests, this place could be used as a warehouse to store equipment, a common for everyone to gather, or something else with similar functions.

Maa~ our guild members didn’t frequently go hunting or participate in quest, but every day we spent the majority of our time here.

“Hello...”

When I stepped into the room like usual, there were three members waiting. In the middle of the room was a small table, with beautiful girls gathered around.

Shizuku sat down on a chair in front, as the same time I had also sat down in a nearby location.

“Riel Riel Riel Riel Riel~ You finally decided to come, nya~”

“Oi!?”

I raised my hand to stop a body that suddenly approached.

In my hand were short silver hair, on top even had a pair of cat ear fluttering.

The girl with an innocent face named “Ricotta”. A girl belonged to the Beastmen tribe, Were-cat race. Her soft tail was moving left and right while she was looking at me.

Her occupation was an Alchemist. Characteristic by wearing a long coat like a scholar, waist hanged a belt carrying many vials similar to test tubes and experiment books.

But there were no Alchemists who would wear such a short skirt like her, increased her attractiveness.

Ah, that's right, almost all cat-like avatars who added words like “nya”, “nyo”, or “nyu” at the end of their sentences were guy inside. But she had announced that she was a girl in reality. So that was it if she was not lying.

“.....uuu.”

While I was apologizing to Ricotta for my tardiness, I heard a small voice from behind.

When I turned around I see a girl standing by with a pair of eyes that looked like a loyal puppy waiting for her master to come back.

Her name was “Mashumaro”. Everyone called her “Mashu”. Liked her name, Mashu was a very sensitive girl. Her shoulder-length, somewhat curly hair helped increase her youthfulness. Her equipment was a long skirt with black at the main theme, her front was a white layer that looked like an apron, decorated on the edges. One could say that it was modeled after a maid's outfit. Although it fitted her but in contrary to her look, her occupation was an Assassin.

Why did she choose that occupation? She once said like this:

“Because the syllables ‘ashasin’ sounded really cute~”

The reason was because she did not understand the meaning of that word, if I remembered correctly. I didn't know anything other than that.

It was also because of that that she initially could not find any outfit that

fitted her interest. So she ignored her occupation and picked herself the cutest outfit possible. But it looked like she still did not pick a weapon. It was true that carrying a bloody knife on her waist did not fit with her gentle appearance. Furthermore...it looked like that she was also a person who liked doing housework in real life.

“Too long. It has been too long~”

While hugging me tightly, Mashu’s eyes were wet.

“.....What’s wrong?”

“Because, we haven’t meet for a day already, right? From the time when Riel-chan logged out last night to now has been one day, I have been worried, feeling like something tears me apart, uuuu~”

“You are exaggerating...”

“No way. I am, when conversing with Riel-chan, I feel really peaceful. Because it has been too long so I have leveled up my Fishing skill and went fishing while waiting, finally dozed off, and almost fall down to the lake. Ehehe.”

“Don’t ‘ehehe’ me. Did you stay logged in from yesterday till now!?”

“That’s right, why?”

“Right your...how can you still say that with a calm face...”

“I...I couldn’t do that...?”

“E...”

Two tear drops condensed on her eyes were about to fall down.

“Did I do something wrong? Did I trouble you?”

“Uh...uh no...th-that matter...”

“Ah!? Doesn’t stalking Riel-chan all day like that makes me look like a stalker?”

“You finally realize it.”

“.....aa...”

She lied down on the floor like she was sick, slowly pulled out a small bottle

from the item box in the guild house. That green liquid inside that clear bottle was poison. It could cause big damage if used against monsters, but.....it could also be effective against players.

“What are you trying to do?”

“I will kill myself here to apologize!”

“Don’t do that!”

I took back that bottle when she brought it to her mouth.

“Just let me kill myself here!”

She pulled out a knife and pointed at her throat.

“Uh...even if you do that, you still cannot die according to the system.”

“If that’s so then, MEGANTE!”

TN: a sacrifice skill in Dragon Quest II

Finished saying that, she hugged me while crying loudly.

“Are you trying to kill us too!?”

While we were at it, inside ZX did not have any skills like Megante.

“Really, you are fine even if you stay logged in. Because I don’t mind. But thank you for waiting for me.”

When heard me say that, Mashu pushed her face into my chest to wipe her tears, then laugh eheheh. Her expression.....looked way too cute—!

At that time, another small bottle showed up in our views. Inside was also poison, but it was purple instead of green.

“This can make you die immediately, nya.”

Ricotta introduced death potion, even more potent than poison potion. Because of her occupation, this surely was her own concoction.

The small bottle moved about slowly in front of Mashu.

“I...I don’t need it!”

“Muu~ I putted so much effort into making this, nya...”

“Mu, because Riel-chan said that so I do not want to die anymore!”

Mashu again pressed her face into my chess, pouting, with cheeks blown up. Ricotta also did not admit defeat, blown up her cheeks to express her discomfort. Two girls stared intensely at each other as if they were rivals, but Mashu gave up first. She breathed out and leaned on my shoulder. At that time, a mournful voice appeared nearby:

“Hey, you guys, please stop this game.”

Pair of sharp ear belonged to the Elven race. Long, blonde, shiny hair was tied together to the left. She named “Shirousahime”. Everyone called her “Hime”. She was wearing a shirt with exposed belly, looked just like a tight sport bra, with extremely short sleeves. Underneath was a micro-mini-skirt. The outfit had a white theme, with golden edging, caused me to imaging of a high-class princess.

I thought from the beginning that she had transformed herself into a princess...

Even so, her occupation was way different from her image, it was Thief. I am sure you are wondering why she chose that occupation?

I observed Hime was lecturing Mashu and Ricotta.

“Why are you too keep sticking to Riel, hah?”

“What do you mean?”

“Why is Hime saying that, nya?”

Mashu and Ricotta was still being stubborn.

“Because...t-that kind of thing will cause trouble to Riel!”

“Is that true, Riel-chan?”

“No.....no way.”

Mashu kept “uuuuuu” when asking me so I had no way but to deny it.

“See that, there is nothing wrong, nya.”

“A-anyway that is still unacceptable!”

Hime's face became unsightly while her cheeks turned red. A tomato red shade slowly expanded to her ears and finally blown out stream from her blonde hair.

"Even you have become like that, how can you lecture anyone."

Having stay silence for a while, Shizuku suddenly whispered. Furthermore, Hime was sitting right next to her.

"W-What? I did not say anything advantageous for me, right? You cannot accuse me like that!"

"Quiet, stop yelling into my ear. Besides, I have paid attention, Shirousahime kept behaving like a princess. First calling herself a bunny, then said "I will die of loneliness" as if you were pitiful."

"What does my avatar's name has with relation to this matter!? And your avatar's name 'Shizuku' is also reeked with chuunibyou smell, right? Even if my name is so, it is still better than some that named themselves 'Setsuna' or 'Knight of Dark'. That is the reason why your friendlist is always empty."

TN: Setsuna, lol

"The amount of friend has no relation to this, you lonely rabbit."

"Admitting defeat?"

I could not stand by and watch so I intervened.

"Uh...you two are the same in this matter..."

""Shut up!""

Two people yelled at me together, because that was the truth.

While playing ZX Welt, one could save the name of other players into friendlist. Players who had good relations with each other often created party to play together. Therefore, they elected a person as the guild master to create a guild and play together.

Because of that, the amount of name inside the friendlist was usually friend > guild.

But our people were more of the unusual kind, friend = guild.

Ignored Shizuku and Hime, counting other remaining guild members, one could say that this is an unusual guild.

Pirori~n.

A silly electric voice sounded in my ear.

I moved my hand to the front and swiped to one side on instinct. A status window opened in the air. This was a menu that allowed one to do a lot of things. A message icon was blinking at the edge. The sender was no other than that Hugues guy.

What the heck does he want?

While I was worrying, it looked like he also has sent messages to other members.

“Ah, message from Knight-sama, nya.”

“I have also received a message from Knight-sama.”

“Same here.”

“Knight-sama is often like that.”

And just like that, the messages spread like a chain.

Unlike me who felt uncomfortable when received the message, everyone seemed cheerful when they received them.

Aa...why am I feeling so nauseated?

Furthermore, why is he still lingering with other members when he has already confessed to me?

Although I did not know what was the content of the message, I was a little worry...

Eh? Am I being jealous? I rebutted myself for having that thought.

Should I read this message? I struggled even though I have already opened it.

Title: Dear my lovely honey

Sender: Hugues

Receiver: Riel,

[Hi, my little kitty, how are you today? Right now I am staying at a new company on South Island.>]

Who the heck is he actually?

[I'll return to Japan after this trip, after all I'm only human, sometimes I need to heal my tired wings. Time like these, the first image appears on my mind is the figure of my sweet honey. Aa, I want to see you guys like a field of blooming Dionaea.>]

What the heck is wrong with this guy's writing? Furthermore, isn't Dionaea a man-eating plant?

[As you know, my guild has been established for 3 months.]

And since when has it become yours!?

[It has grew slowly hasn't it?]

What has grew?

[So I've decided

2:00 PM, on Δ day X month○.

At "Kaizeria" at Eastern Ikebukuro gate, our guild will hold the first offline meeting.

Everyone needs to participate!

I really can't wait for that day. Good bye.>]

Fuu.....that's it, I was worried of what is written in it. Wait a second, where where.....at "Kaizeria" at Eastern Ikebukuro.....

OFFLINE MEETING AHHHHHHHHH!?

Not good not good.

What the heck is that guy doing!?

If now I asked if anyone had received similar messages then everyone would certainly focus on the phrase "offline meeting".

I wished this was a mistake, my eyes again stuck closely to the message. And

then I saw a postscript underneath with the phrase “Dear Riel”.

[About our wedding, I’ll tell everybody at the offline meeting. I look forward to everybody’s reactions.]

A cold feeling ran through my back.

Heyyyyy! If you do this then this guild will certainly be disbanded! Can I not go to the meeting, but he can just announce that matter with everyone like usual, right? (But I never recalled having agreed to his confession!)

I even didn’t dare to appear, let along stopping him. Even if he knew that I am a guy and stop, other members will not let this go. Because if they knew that I was a nekama then our current relationships would end.

Furthermore, I just wanted to enjoy their 2D figures. Even if they were a little weird but I was really satisfied with the current situation. I knew that oasis do not exist in the desert that called 3D, only when I stepped foot inside this 2D world did I find a small lake. How dare he wanted to strip that away from me too!?

But.....this disgusting invitation, probably nobody would decide to go to, right? Yeah, that’s right. What kind of invitation was so weird.

While I was calming myself down then,

“I have always want to meet you guys~”

Wait, Mashu!? What did you just say!?

“That’s right, because this is the decision of Knight-sama so it can’t be help.”

“Because “everyone needs to participate” so I have to go even if I don’t want to, nya~”

Even Hime and Ricotta!? They agreed to go because of this disgusting invitation!?

But.....here as if only has Shizuku who did not express what she wanted yet?

“Of course Riel will also attend, right?”

Once I paid attention to then her face was pressed near my face.

“Eh? Uh...um...that...”

“Understood. Then everyone, even Riel, will attend.”

“Wait!?”

Shizuku raised her voice to cover my sound.

“Waaaa, it will be fun~”

“That’s right. Cannot cannot go.”

“I look forward to meeting Riel, nya!”

Eh, wait, these guys! When I wanted to speak up, Shizuku has put a hand on my shoulder.

“I am also looking forward to it!”

She smiled happily from the bottom of her heart. Then certainly squeezed her hand.

Ahhhhh (°△°||)(°△°||)(°△°||)(°△°||)(°△°||).

And so Riel (me) has fallen into a situation that cannot be backed down. What can I do now—!?

Chapter 2: Not Good, the Offline Meeting Turns Into A Harem

◇ Offline ◇

Mizokawa Private School. Now there was still some times until the homeroom started. It was the time students gathered at different seats in class. And I was sitting, facing down the desk at the last row of class.

The first reason was lack of sleep, because everyday I always immersed in ZX Welt until late at night. As for the second reason was the matter last night, surely you'd know about it without being told.

“Haa.....”

A sigh leaked out when I thought about this weekend. What should I do now.....Just when I started going back into the labyrinth without exit, a voice resounds in my head.

“Hello hello. Good morning, Keita-shi. Oh, isn’t it a mascot robot in a certain mecha anime? Now even collecting figure huh? Never see it before. Haha. You surprise me too much. Gahahahaha.”

[氏 – if it’s used as a formal word, read as “shi”, if it’s used as a noun, read as “uchi”, means “lineage” (3 generations). And here he say Hello hello in English]

This way of talking zealously in the morning, just hearing them make you want to beat him black and blue. If you pay attention you can see a slightly long hair behind, a boy with black glasses standing strictly in a salute posture.

His name was Kamogawa Kyouya. A typical otaku. The proof was that he had every factor like “unnecessarily loud voice”, “a verbose way of talking”, “always brought a leather glove”.

“Let’s look at my booty!”

Although I didn’t want to care, his seat was right in front of mine, I noticed that he was searching something in his bag, making a rustle. Inside it was a thin book. Its cover was a illustration of a loli wearing a frills skirt.

“Familiar, isn’t it?”

My throat gulped down a bit.

“Fufu.....Already noticed it huh? This is a work of Akagi Sakura-sensei, doujinshi ‘Mahou Shoujo Mamika ☆ Majolica’!”

“Oooh!”

“I had it in the only event held yesterday. Never expect Akagi-sensei to take part in a small-scale event like that. People jostled very fiercely that I was so terrified. Luckily it still had some left so I could buy it. Generally speaking, the event yesterday was very good. In addition the organization committee was very professional, *choeng*.”

Even use onomatopoeia word *choeng*, you usually used *flash* before.

[*choeng* is the sound of a fast light ray/electric current. *flash* is the light reflected on a sunglasses. And here he say very good in English]

That was the reason why Kyouya was friendly towards me at school. He was also the person who led me to ZX, and that was our common theme. When two otakus wavelengths resonated with each other, they would even scatter more widely than before.

“Let me borrow it.”

“Sure. I still have another anyway. But at lunch time...*choeng* !”

Kyouya just notice something and used onomatopoeia. At the same time, a chill runs down my spine.

This feeling...This scent...seemed familiar...

Having a bad premonition not losing to Newtype, I hastily turned back.

[TN: Newtype: Gundam reference]

“Uwaah!?”

I took a long step backwards. A girl was standing there. Moreover she was really close.

A thoughtfully-cared curly hair and natural make-up. Furthermore, an appearance without fussy make-up made her emit the attractiveness of a

beauty but I wondered that ‘What’s with this dressing style?’ because right below the miniskirt was a bare thighs being exposed. It made me feel like she was a resident of another world.

Her name was Kudou Misaki. Maybe I didn’t remember other students’s names but as regards her name I remember it exactly. As for the reason, I didn’t want to mention it so let’s forget about it for now.

It seemed like she peeked at the doujinshi from behind. But right now she was acting like she wasn’t interested it. I had never gone through a situation like this, thus I can’t endure interacting with a 3D girl, so my heart felt like it wanting to burst out because of the pressure.

Not only with her, I also felt hesitate when other girls unintentionally approach. And it happened quite often. Why is it like that? I just knew that my body was vulnerable to the opposite sex.

I still stood there, stunned. She “Hmph!”, acting like she wasn’t interested in it but then she turned her eyes to me, whose face was blushing right now.

“W-what’s up.....”

“U-uhm, it’s nothing. I just want to know what you are reading.”

When I started to behave awkwardly, a voice called out to her in the class.

“Hey, Misamisa. What are you doing?”

That was a group of girls full of bitches’s smell.

“Ah, sorry. I’m coming right away.”

Misaki-san hastily ran toward their place. And then I heard a voice coming from one girl in that group.

“Misamisa, what did you talk to this disgusted-sagi?”

“Eh? Nothing, I just asked him to show me a book...”

“Sheesh, must be a lolicon book right?”

Shut up, leave me alone! What do you people know about Mamika-chan huh!?

That was the reason why 3D girls are annoyed. Indeed, 2D girls were the best.

Yep.

At that time, Kyouya quickly hid the doujinshi and turned his face to me. What a smart guy.

“By the way, hey Keita-shi, you look very tired today. Did you play SWO a whole night?”

“Yeah...Something like that.”

Although my level was quite low, my play time didn’t lose to some high-level players’s. And he also knew how much I was addicted to it.

“Did you have any trouble?”

“The thing is...”

I told Kyouya about the offline meeting at the weekend. He knew clearly about my Nekama status, and also about my circumstances of joining a guild full of girls.

“Keita-shi, what did you just say!?”

He suddenly grabbed my collar.

“Uwa!? You seems surprised more than I thought...Nevertheless...Let me go! Let go! Let go!!”

“Don’t you think it’s too much!? It just likes a happy day off with girl!? And even with many at the same time!! It’s so envious!! You betrayer!!”

“Uhm...I think you seriously misunderstood it!”

I acted like it wasn’t good to make Kyouya stop raging more.

“You...You goddamn Riajuu!”

“Wait, why does your voice sound different from usual, Kyouya-san? From the beginning for us 3D girls are just trivial right.....mhm...mhm...”

My neck was squeezed tighter.

“Oh, s-sorry! I’m just too mad!”

“It’s fine if you understand it.”

He dropped me to the cold floor. Aah, this feeling wasn’t bad.

“...But this very offline meeting is worrying me right now.”

I started telling my worry while sighing. At first Kyouya showed a suspicious expression, and then bursted out into laughing.

“Haha, scared of being discovered as a Nekama huh?”

“Yeah, that’s right...”

Besides this, I still had one more reason...

“If I was you I would also behave like this. They always think of you as a girl, but when everyone meet each other, it turns out that she is a boy, thus it’s hard to face each other at guild the following day huh. Gufufu.”

“Seems like you are having fun when seeing me like that huh?”

I didn’t want to be called a disgusted man. If I knew it beforehand I’d rather keep my mouth shut so being called a goddamn Riajuu by you would be more proud. Ah no...Normally was enough wasn’t it? Though Kyouya was right. Having to face the person deceiving you for a long time wasn’t different from being tortured.

“However...This is a good chance to give up, isn’t it? When you are too immersed in MMO your body will be decayed, isn’t it? Lately I also haven’t played much.”

“But I don’t intend to give up even a bit.”

There was no other way than coming to the offline meeting, but if it was like that I would have trouble not knowing what this Hugues might say to the girls. The result would be the same anyway.

“Is that so, is that so?”

“Are you even listening to me?”

Kyouya nodded repeatedly, with a face similar to the commander sending his vanguard to the battlefield. And then he slowly pulled out something like a white cloth from his bag.

“Consider it my farewell gift for Keita-shi. It’s a very precious treasure but can’t be helped. Please die gloriously okay?”

“Die? Die.....Really....Uhm.....You are right.....”

I spreaded out the white cloth still wrapped by a nylon bag to see. It was a long and thin cloth with a same height as a elementary student. The other side of the cloth ws...

“Waa!? T-this is!”

Seeing my reaction, Kyousuke's glasses flashed.

“Fufu, it's Mamika-chan pillowcase. I saw it when dropped into Bora bo Ana in my way home yesterday.”

The loli whose face was red looked at me with her wet eyes. Furthermore, her clothes had a high exposure rate. Something like this is sold out there!? The world is really wonderful!

“I will give my waifu to you, make sure to take care of her thoughtfully. Never let her be dirty okay.”

“Really!? B-but.....Then I will gladly receive her with gratitude.....Uhm.”

And thus I accepted Kyousuke's kindness with my greatest gratitude.

No matter what, my daily life wouldn't change.

xxxxx

All of today's classes have ended. Because I didn't join any clubs so I came home early as usual.

My house was located at the suburb. It was kinda quiet. Nothing special. Because my parents were the kind of people who were always busy with their jobs so they rarely stayed at home. However, it didn't make me sad. On the contrary, I even felt comfortable. Cooking and washing were my only daily housework.

I spent the remaining time being immersed in online world.

But today I didn't feel like playing. Because the offline meeting tomorrow kept coming out in my mind. And of course, that remaining time becomes unnecessary.

What do I do now ? When I thought about 'What about watching anime?' or

‘Ah, the manga I bought still have some left that I have yet to read’, the idea of a wonderful place popped out. Before that let’s stuff a pillow into the pillowcase I received from Kyouya. Thinking like that, I went to my room upstairs.

“Uhm.”

I was slightly worried before stretching out my arm to hug Mamika-chan. My number one waifu in my room first was the pillowcase [Totokaru Konoha-chan]. I changed the name so it wouldn’t be a sacrilege to Konoha-chan. Because there wasn’t any pillows left, from now on until I went shopping I would have to apologize to Mamika-chan to use the pillowcase I often used them in the past again. Although it’s obvious, the pillowcase just expands about 1/3.

U—hm, I worried again. But, immediately a idea flashed through my mind.

“That’s right, why don’t I use the cushion at the living room?”

The sofa had about 2 cushions. There wouldn’t be any problem if I borrowed one this time right? Because even if my parents came home they would sleep immediately. I really was a genius.

To give Mamika-chan a life, I quickly ran outside my room. However, right before stepping on the stairs, I suddenly noticed something.

The room next to mine. The door was half-open, there was a rustle inside it.

I forgot to tell you, that was my little sister’s room, Sagimiya Rio. However, it was rarely used. If you ask why then the reason was since middle school she hadn’t lived in this house anymore. It seemed like she had lived at her friend’s house since then.

It became like that at puberty, then do you know what I mean? Simply speaking, she was a girl.

I heard a strange sound from her room. Maybe she was changing. *chirp*, I was still her big brother anyway. Because of that, I thought at least I should say something like ‘Already cool your head and come back huh?’. Although I had known the answer definitely was this line ‘Annoying!’.

“Hey, Rio, did you come back?”

I talked through the gap of the door. After that, her face suddenly appeared right before my eyes, made me jump out.

“Uwaah!? D-don’t startle me like that!”

“.....What are you doing here?”

Rio looked at me suspiciously with her head stuck out from the gap. Looking at her eyes and lips, I could see her displeasure.

I hadn’t met her for two years but this face was still the same.

“.....What’s wrong?”

“Eh, nothing, because I haven’t met you for a long time so I just want to say hi...”

For some reasons she didn’t respond immediately. Instead she mumbles.

“D.....Do.....”

“Do?”

“D-don’t peek at me.....”

“No, I don’t intent to...”

After that, Rio’s eyes glanced at the thing in my hand. A silent space, that was a product which would make the police inquire me if I carried it on the street. When I realized it, I had already lost all of my composure

“Ah...Erm.....This is.....Erm.....”

When I tried to find an excuse, Rio blushed very red, seeming like she would explode soon.

But then the door was slammed strongly.

...Ano....., this.....What does this mean?

xxx

Thus the offline meeting had finally come.

After worrying very much, in the end I decided to spend my day off ending this foreshadow crisis by dragging my heavy legs to Ikebukuro.

Unfortunately, it seemed like all of the members lived along Ikebukuro Railway. That was why Ikebukuro was chosen as the meeting location.

I didn't have any other way than expecting it to be cancelled. I also secretly thought of some strategies. Like the person playing Riel was actually Rio, but because she had business, she was unable to come, and told me, her big brother, that she couldn't accept me for not coming in place of her. If Hugues said anything strange to them, I would just stop him. Although this strategy was ridiculous, I couldn't think of any way other than that so it can't be helped. It's suspicious but if anything happened I would feign ignorant. I didn't think they would obtain any proper answer anyway.

Moreover.....I also wanted to meet all members once.

Now I was near Kaizaria, the place chosen as the meeting location.

It seemed like that person intentionally chose a family restaurant just to be able to sit for a long time. All of the restaurant's employees, sorry for the trouble.

While waiting for the traffic lights to turn green, I slipped through the crowd to come to the front row.

After crossing the road, the destination came into view. Because we decide to meet outside, not inside the restaurant, so my heart beat violently. Thinking again, ah no, no need to, this was definitely the first time I met and talked to a girl directly in real life. Therefore anxiety was unavoidable.

Ah...How thirsty.

But on the other hand, when online I can talk normally. I'm sure about that.

I suddenly watched the front of the restaurant. Among the crowd, there was a person standing, with her eyes wandering. If this was SWO, you could say that I had found the target.

Because there wasn't anyone like that so it would probably be true.

Even if it wasn't, I also had to check that 'too standing out' person.

What do I mean huh? That was because he was all white. Basically, plain white.

Moreover, he stood out too much among the black crowd.

Speaking more clearly, that was a fur suit covering from head to toe.

[TN: The illustration just shows a coat covering his upper body but the line above is written ‘from head to toe’. Maybe the author and illustrator had different thought but the editor forgot to check it?]

That anime character suit was kinda slim, not different from a pijama. The long and pointed ears on its head, there was a face of a very cute mouse decorated in front of it. A electric plug-liked tail was grown from the bottom.

I immediately recognized it. That was the electric mouse “Gorochu” appeared on a phone game “Punching Monter”, in short “Pachimon”.

[TN: Parody ‘Pikachu’ in ‘Pocket Monter’ aka ‘Pokemon’...

Right now it was the middle summer, there was no one wearing that hot suit. So how can he avoid being stand out?

Although I didn’t want to believe that this guy was waiting for me even a bit, but for confirmation, I gathered all of my courage to call out.

“E-excuse me.....Are you waiting for the guild offline meeting.....aren’t you?”

I nervously asked her.

And then this anime character suit turns around. Inside it was a girl.



Her big black eyes blinked with amazement. She looked at me, then blushes and shyly nods.

Despite her strange appearance, she was a beautiful girl when you look closely. Her eyebrow was long like a doll's, her skin was white as snow. Contrary to her skin, her hair was black and glossy. What made me surprised the most was she looked so small. Maybe even smaller than my little sister.

My first impression of her was a bashful girl. I immediately compare her with every members of my guild.

Let's see, this appearance and personality, hmpf.....

Who is it again?

Of course I was comparing the traits when online, although the personality when online and in real life was different, like me. But at least they have to be similar a bit.

"Uhm....."

I realized that she still looked fixedly at one spot when I started talking.

Fragile and slender, like a candle before the wind. I passionately gazed at that body unconsciously.

However her timidity was so fierce that my eyes had to turn away.

Awkward. Really awkward.

In short, I can't leave this atmosphere to last forever.

I had to say something, but what do I suppose to say?

Uhm.....Uhm.....Ah, that's right!

"This suit is really lewd, isn't it?"

Waaaaaaaaa!? I slip my toungue! How stupid! What the hell did I just say!?

What I wanted to say is "This suit is really white, isn't it?", but why did I make such a fatal slip like that?

TN: Keita intents to say "shiro" (white) but instead he says "ero" (lewd).

Damn it, this was because I didn't usually talk to girls directly so this happened.

I covered my mouth! Ah no, it had to be holding my head right?

Although she trembled at first, but luckily, it seemed like she was inattentive so she can't hear that line well.

『A pervert?』

“Eh?”

I had been left dumbfounded when seeing that word appeared before my eyes. When I looked at it again, in her hand was a A4-size white board shown in this way by a timid hand, on that board was the word I saw not long ago being written in black.

It seemed like she wrote her thought on that board, and the content was the opposite of her shy and timid appearance.

What's this? So did she hear all of it?

“N-no no no, please let me explain.”

I extended my hand to her, trying to resolve the misunderstanding. At that time, she wrote something in the board.

『Please don't touch me, you dangerous. Or else I will be pregnant.』

“What kind of reason is that? Moreover where does that way of talking like chemistry's note come from!?”

『Pregnant.』(*ninshinsuru* – 妊娠する)

“Why do you have to emphasize like that!?”

『Nintendo believer.』 (*ninshin* – 任信, short for “*nintendo shinja*” – 任天堂信者)

“Iyaffu! You probably are a believer of the company that makes game about plumber aren't you?”

『Pacific lamprey.』(*nishin* -鮑)

“Yeah yeah, it has many bones but when you finish cooking it will be very tasty.....Nevertheless, the kanji for this word is quite hard, isn't it?”

Now how will I check the number of anime series when living in prison huh? I can ask Kyouya for it but.....

When I was still immersed in thinking, the white board was shown once again.

『Everyone have already gathered in full numbers.』

“.....heh?”

When I look back, there were a twintails girl and other two people next to the anime character suit girl. There were four beautiful girls in total standing before me.

xxxx

It was really bad right now.

The restaurant had air-conditioner, and I was being surrounded by four girls.

Now it was 2 o'clock so the number of customers had decreased. Among them, our guild members had occupied six seats.

I wished I could sit normally, but how could I do that with a 5:0 ratio like this? It was clearly crammed. With two people per side, I was just barely able to stick out to the table.

Due to be the person at the center, it looked like I was leader. Sweating heavily, in short this situation was really bad.

However, I couldn't clearly grasp this situation. I thought that the first impression had become the worst thing ever since I said that line outside like a pervert. But I didn't know why I was happy just by talking to her. That was because the girl sitting next to me had developed a horrible argument a moment ago. Although it was still painful, I had calmed down a bit, but if this continued, we couldn't go to the main problem.

“Uhm.....everyone.....I think we should start talking.....”

After listening to my suggestion, the girls discouragedly stood up and sit in a row. Now it was 4:1 ratio. And of course I sit alone. Although it was still extreme, it seemed like a ceasefire agreement had been made.

While the drinks were being prepared, I had some peace.

Ah, right, let me introduce them.

From right to left, the girl who had the impression with the coffee cup in front

was Hime. A yellow-red twintail hair, although it was a bit different from the avatar's hair when online but this ojou-sama's aura, no matter when online or offline, it was still the same. While she stared fixedly at me with her slanting eyes, our gazes met each other and she confusedly turned away.

On her left. A kind of gentle girl who always smiled at me while drinking her orange juice. Her shoulder-length wavy hair was the same when online. Her white hand exposed from the sleeveless shirt was very bright. There was one noteworthy thing at her appearance, I heard that she is a housewife, but she wasn't really different from my age. Just how old is she?

At her feet was a paper bag containing a lot of books, I caught sight of some covers of them. Maybe many people didn't know but I did. That were doujinshis. Moreover, from the covers, I could tell that were BL. I was sure that before coming here she had visited the woman's place.

Next. The girl who happily drank melon soda with a straw was Ricotta. She seemed smaller than the rest, I heard that she was a middle school student. Her over-shoulder short hair, a hair strand growing from her head looks like a antenna. That was also normal, but.....

Her hair's color wasn't normal at all! Hime's looked similar from when online, but this girl's was exactly the same. Moreover, her hair accessory or something was clearly cat ears. Two people before looked slightly similar between online and offline, but this girl was exactly the same! That silver hair wasn't fake, was it? I didn't know whether she dyed it or not. When we first met, that was the first thing I noticed.

And at last. The girl wearing an anime character pijama and drinking milk (put a lot of sugar) whom I met first. She was Shizuku.

But my first impression of her was that she was far different from when online, a very bashful girl. Since when we first met until now she hadn't said any words. From beginning to end she was just timid. How to say it, I couldn't imagine that she was short like that. Compared to the game avatar, she looked tinier and cuter. However, it ws too different, isn't it? Even when seeing my gaze, Shizuku immediately lowered her head, the black eyes continuously blinked.

Anyway I wished she could take off her hood. Does she have any reasons not to do so?

Although there were still a lot of problem, as expected they were all girls in real life.

Hmph, why do I know their names?

That was because while waiting for the drinks, they had introduced themselves.

And.....Now it was my turn. Although it was disappointed a bit, I still had to say it. That was why Riel didn't come herself but her big brother instead. The face of a falsely accused person appeared in my mind.

I took a deep breath. And then,

“Erm, I’m Ri...”

[TN: Keita intends to say “Riel no ani” (Riel’s big brother).]

“But...It’s really surprised right~”

“Hmph?”

When I intended to say something, Mashu interrupted me. Her voice seemed silly a bit.

“I never imagine Knight-sama to be bold like that~”

“Erm.....M...Mashu-san?”

“That’s, you can say that even while standing in the middle of the street.....”

“T-that’s just a misunderstanding!”

After that Hime talked with hesitancy when meeting my eyes.

“E...e-e...every boy is a beast. Is Knight-sama also like that?”

Although I didn’t wish to be forgiven but, what was everyone talking about?

Uhm, what is this? I’m.....

.....Knight-sama!?

It seemed like they had seriously misunderstood right from the start., I had to

correct it quickly. But they talked very rapidly which made me unable to interrupt them.

At that time, Shizuku timidly rised the board, ouch!

『Lustful Knight-sama <3』

She looked really delighted when writing it. But her behavior didn't fit that line well.

[TN: From now on Shizuku's line in the board will be put in『』]

Now I thought about it, this board was the reason I said like that. It was really a troublesome thing because I had to read and think at the same time.

Although she was really different from when online, those lines in the board were definitely Shizuku's.

So teasing people is your habit isn't it? Isn't it?

In that case! I will steel myself so you can't tease me anymore.

“Who is lustful huh!? Don't say such baseless thing!”

Right after I have denied strongly, Ricotta talks.

“Lustful is okay nyan! If Knight-sama wants, although roughly a bit, Ricotta will still be okay with it nya!”

“Why do you talk like that! And why does everyone look at me like that!?”

For some reasons, other members gave me a lot of sharp gazes. It was really incomprehensible.

“Before coming here, ‘Knight-sama’ had secretly lured me nyan. Did you forget it nyan?”

“Lure what huhhhhhhhhh!?”

After that, their sharper gazes penetrated my body.

Everyone here thought that I wa Knight-sama, although I wanted to correct this misunderstanding, Ricotta's line worried me so much.

What's that.....the way she boldly talks was really in opposite with her innocent appearance.

“And your way of adding ‘nya’ is also default isn’t it?”

She naturally smiled when hearing that. If this ws online, I thought her cat ears would wag because of happiness.

“This is the influence of the language from planet Nyanya nya.”

“Nya.....? Nyanya??”

“This isn’t because of the setting nya.”

“Ah, that’s right.....it’s not because of the setting isn’t it.”

This girl is crazy too!

“Of course it is because Ricotta comes from planet Nyanya.”

“It’s really cool. And you forget to add ‘nya’ in the end.”

“Ah yeah nya.”

“Too late!”

This girl was undoubtedly a Chuunibyou. And I wa being teased at the level of Shonibyou. It was really funny.

[TN: ‘Middle school 2nd year syndrome’ has many different levels. I just know 3 kinds of it: Shonibyou (小二病, level 1 – elementary school); Chuunibyou (中二病, level 2 – middle school); Kounibyou (高二病, level 3 – high school). I don’t know whether level 4 – university exists or not.]

If she didn’t say such troublesome things, I would count her as a cute girl. The silver hair aside, her face passed. The smooth skin would be very soft if touched.

But what’s with this? I have a strange feeling about this girl.....

“Hey.....Is there a chance that we have met somewhere before?”

“Really? That can’t be! T-t-this is our first time”.

“Is that so?”

Suddenly she strangely becomes confused....Ah, she forgot to add ‘nya’ didn’t she.

“But...Indeed.....”

“T-that’s just your imagination.....Ah, that’s right nya.”

Your lines didn’t fit each other.

While thinking about that, I incidentally catch sight of Hime’s grimacing face.

“Such a sly person.”

“Eh?”

“Saying such untrue things, you just want to hit on her, don’t you? Moreover, she is just a small girl.”

“Ah no, I really don’t have that intention...”

“How would we know about it?”

Although she still had that suspecting eyes, Hime’s face turned red a bit.

“I know it more than anyone else.”

“Know what?”

“The eyes of every boy are of the beasts’.”

“What??”

“That’s, because I’m super cute, aren’t I? You can say that my beauty just show up once in a million people doesn’t it? Ah no, It’s even more rare than that.”

This girl was too self-conceited.

“Whenever I go outside, a lot of indecent eyes look at me. Everyone looks dangerous. If they do that I’m afraid that someday someone might attack me.”

Don’t get cocky!

“And I feel that your eyes are also the same.”

“Haha, where does it look like?”

“Uhm...More accurately, it’s not the same, instead it’s even more than that.”

Another crazy girl.....

While chuckling, I see a white board at the other side. Shizuku was showing it to me.

『Do you watch Tragon Ball Z Remaster Editon from the start?』

[TN: Tragon Ball Z – parody Dragon Ball Z]

“Ah, of course I watched from the beginning.”

“Fueee!? O-of course?? F-from the beginning?? M-maa, t-that’s right, b-because it’s me isn’t it.....B-but it’s fine if you want to look forever...”

For some reasons Hime’s face turned even redder and she reacted more strongly.

[TN: because Shizuku and Hime sit at the opposite side so Hime can’t see Shizuku showing the board and thinks that Keita is talking to her.]

『What female character (litmit) do you like?』

“Maybe she has to be enthusiastic a bit, perhaps I choose ‘Chichi’.”

“W-w-w-w-w-w-whaaaat?”

Hime hastily covered her breast, starting to be confused.

[TN: Of course Keita was saying ‘Chichi’ – Goku’s wife, but chichi (チチ) also means ‘boob’.]

“Stupid! Pervert! D-don’t look at that place!”

“Hah?”

When I turned back, Hime’s hair bristled like a angry cat’s fur.

『’Chichi’ is my waifu.』

“What are you saying about? Did I just decide that ‘Chichi’ is mine?”

“M-m-m-m-m-m-mineeee!?”

Immediately Hime gave off smoke like a pot. What’s the matter?

Shizuku didn’t care about that, she showed a picture from her smartphone.

『This is MAD gathering all scenes of ‘Chichi’.』

“What? Let me see it!”

“Eeeeeeeeeeh!?”

Because Hime suddenly screamed loudly, the employees and customers all

looked at us.

After that she hesitantly said,

“I-i-i-if you want to look that much.....I will show you a bit.....just a bit okay?”

Hime bashfully puts her in on her blouse.

“W-what are you doing?”

“Eh?”

When I stop[ed Hime, her face went stiff.

After that. When knowing that I was talking to Shizuku, her cheek puffed like she was eating a apple.

“Wait! That is because of your indecent thought isn’t it!”

『Is letting other people see such a embarrassed thing?』

“Of course! Being a pure girl but doing something like that will make people misunderstand!? Because I, about appearance, personality or family, am all perfect and noble!”

Her appearance really was perfect, but how could I know about her family? As for her personality.....It had to be examined again.

However, Hime’s face that I felt something unusual a while ago suddenly gave self-satisfied smile.

“What? Or do you envy? I’m too right aren’t I? That’s right, I have exposed before everyone. And you, because you are too ugly so you have to hide under the hood, aren’t you? Maybe behind it is.....Let see, something horrible like a peculiar hair? I have hit the nail right?”

Hime laughed to her heart’s fullest content while looking at Shizuku’s hood. On the contrary, Shizuku seemed like she didn’t hear anything, I felt like she was trying to ignore it. That attitude made Hime talk more.

“If you don’t mind, let me help you take it off okay.”

Hime brought her hand to hold and pull the hood unhesitatingly. But—

“Fnu, fnuuuuuu! What the hell is that??”

No matter how strong she pulled, there was no sign of the hood being taken off. Simply because Shizuku ws desperately clinging to it.

Despite being an outsider, just by looking I can tell how much her desperate resistance was. If she did'mt have the hood she would die! Something like that. It was like a diver being underwater suddenly had his oxygen container taken. Shizuku bit her lips enduring, her eyes looked kinda wet.

Seeing that, thinking this matter had gone too far, I immediately interfered.

“Hey, if you still do that...”

Right after that, Shizuku became confused and pushed Hime’s hand away, making Hime surprised too. After that she made some movements like wanting to say ‘I’m not ugly!’.

“Hmph...So?”

Hime unpleasantly folded her arms, I felt like she still didn’t understand the problem. On the contrary, Shizuku was fixing her hood calmly. After that she turned around and looked at me with her black eyes.

What’s with that? When I looked back, she immediately turned red and hanged her head.

After that the board ws put on the table.

『[Edited] Hime’s existence is a embarrassment.』

“What-did-you-just-say-huh?”

Although Hime looked like she has exceeded her limit with (^▽^) face, but right after that she smiled dangerously, it seemed like she had just found something to mock at.

While the conflict was still continuing at both sides, sign of ceasefire appeared in a tray.

“Sorry for the wait. Your potato chips and Chilean pizza is ready—”

It’s Milan and Chilean style at the same time?

The waitress looked at us with a strange gaze. Her confusion forced us to act.

“Ye—s, it’s mine.”

The person saying that was Mashu. And the hot pizza was placed in front of her.

“Waa, maybe I should ‘fuu fuu’ to cool it down~”

Of course? The onomatopoeia added seems like it had some malice.

Generally, the smell of baked cheese was gently wrapping my mind. Anyway Hime had already calmed down and sit down. After that she talked while looking at the pizza.

“This thing contains a lot of calories.”

“I haven’t eaten lunch yet~ Moreover, just eating a bit doesn’t make me turn into a plump woman right?”

“Erm? Do you know the word ‘fat’ ? Even when you looks slender, the fat still piles up in the body a lot, anyway being careful is better.”

“Thanks for worrying about me~ But as I said, I will be okay~”

“Oh, is that so?”

“Yes~”

“”Ufufu.””

What’s with this atmosphere!

I felt like standing in the atmosphere of the smiles of 2 girls felt like 2 sharp blades clashing into each other. Think about it, I hadn’t eaten lunch, either. So hungry~ Maybe I will order a Focaccia cake. When I was thinking like that,

[TN: Focaccia – a Italian baked bread, search google for detail.]

“Is Knight-sama also the same?”

The diabetes rate in my blood ws increasing to a dangerous degree, Mashu was pushing the pizza ahead.

Although I didn’t know who she was talking to, I immediately realize that it was me.

“So, itadakimasu.”

When saying that, as if I admitted that I were Knight-sama. But I didn’t have

any other choices, because I was too hungry.

When reaching my hand, my nose could smell the scent of ketchup.

“Yes itadakimasu~”

Cutting a piece of pizza, Mashu holds it and waited for me to open my mouth. Moreover, her face looked kinda shy.



Isn't this 'that' situation ? The 'ahhhh' situation that every boys wish for it?
I thought I heard Hime saying 'Wait!?', but Mashu's act had so much

affection, I couldn't refuse it.

I cautiously opened my mouth and said 'ahhhhh', the pizza was fed into my mouth.

"It-o-e-i-i-us (It's too delicious)!!"

"It's so good~"

What, this 399-yen pizza was really tasty. But being fed by a beautiful girl, no matter what kind of food it would become the best.

Yosh, let's eat all of it. When I was thinking like that, the pizza suddenly left me. A-re, where did it go? I followed it, and then it stopped in front of Mashu's mouth.

Isn't it an indirect kiss? Mashu-san!?

I didn't know whether it was her nature or her intention.

Looking at that scene, my heart throbbed strongly.

"Eh?"

Mashu sounded surprised. Another mouth suddenly appeared and ate the pizza. It was shoved into that mouth.

"Fuanyo..."

A unpleasant sound when chewing. The person who was observing cautiously while her mouth was full of pizza was Hime. If it was not my imagination, she blushed a bit, didn't she? Shizuku was looking at her enviously, her hand moved to Ricotta hopelessly.

Does she want pizza that much!?

Hime was still eating the pizza, finally she swallowed it with a gulp of cold coffee and sighs.

"D-don't look at me like that. I'm just hungry."

"If it's like that, there are still a lot in the dish right?"

"J-just because that pizza looks specially tasty."

"Hou hou? Really? I also feel like that."

‘Such a interesting person~’, Mashu’s eyes that looked at Hime made me feel like she wanted to say that.

You were also interesting not losing to her you know. But I had understood a bit. Mashu seemed like a very pure person. That was because she only understood it when Ricotta sitting next to her saying ‘That’s because it’s an indirect kiss!’, seeming like this was the first time she had ever heard about it. I thought that the ‘ahhh’ was just her kindness.

While having a red face, Mashu ate the rest of pizza continuously like rodent. That figure looked so cute.

The uproar a while ago had disappeared, so that the silence had come back to the table.

Everyone of them was as I expected...

Shizuku was an exception, I thought that she was the strongest person in the guild but unexpectedly she was just a normal girl.

But every members had become closer when meeting.

That reminded me, that guy was the root of everything here.

Hugues. That’s you. Why is Knight-sama who proposes this offline meeting absent huh?

I tried to find a suitable moment to settle every misunderstands. And that was now.

I calmly opened my mouth and talked.

“Hey everyone, about Riel.....”

“Riel doesn’t come, does she?”

“Hah?”

Being interrupted by Hime, I just opened wide my mouth.

“I also hear that.”

Mashu continued.

『Same here.』

Shizuku too.

Drinking a orange juice with ginger, Ricotta also said,

“It’s such a pity but Riel doesn’t come nya.”

What’s with this? I didn’t notify anything about my absence. Moreover, everyone was just disappointed about not meeting Riel, what’s this, this relieved feeling?

When I was wondering like that, Hime suddenly proposed as well as interrupted.

“Why don’t we exchange our email addresses?”

So suddenly. I felt like having already escaped that case.

“I also intend to say that~ I want to have a offline meeting like this sometimes to talk more about our life~”

Mashu had the same opinion. Shizuku and Ricotta also didn’t oppose. Then I exchanged mail with everyone. However, only Mashu inclined her head.

“What’s the matter?”

She looked at her phone before standing up and came at me.

“It seems like I can’t receive it. Can you send it to me one more time again?”

“Ah, sure...”

Because there wasn’t any problem, I happily accepted it.

“Hmph? What’s this...aroma...Eh, waaaaaaa!?”

Because Mashu sit next to me and looked at my phone so her nape almost touched my nose. The soft hair was separated into two sides, revealing her white nape. Because I never observed a girl’s skin this close, I suddenly panicked illogically. As for me that was a dangerous situation!

“U...uhm.....Mashu-san? Do you think that you sit too closely?”

“Is that so? But...Just a bit isn’t a problem.”

“Fuoo!?”

Mashu said that made my mind more confused. Moreover, because she wore

a sleeveless shirt so I could feel her two bare hands like symmetrical docking, I was so nervous! But this, maybe it was just her nature.

At that time, I saw Hime, frowning, standing at the opposite with us.

“Can I ask what are you doing?”

“Just as you see, exchange email address~”

“I know that! But I’m talking about you sitting closely!”

“But...That’s because I can’t receive it~”

Mashu’s eyes had tears welling up. Although I didn’t think that was crying but it can defeat a boy’s heart easily.

“Let me borrow it a bit. I can do it.”

We could do it quickly but Hime had interfered before we could.

“Lend me yours. In exchange I will lend you mine.”

“Aah.....”

Hime snatched away the phone from her hand, and then she sat next to me.

Then...I was being pressed from two sides again. My heart throbbed continuously while Hime used my phone. After that, my email address appeared on the screen.

“What? Isn’t it working normally?”

“Hmph? Is that so? I also don’t know why~”

“Feigning ignorance huh?”

“I don’t have that intention~”

“Hah? Don’t fool around with me.”

According to me, it seemed like Mashu really didn’t understand. The problem lied within the phone. But it seemed like Hime wouldn’t be persuaded with just that.

“From a while ago, that trait of yours makes me really annoyed. You are always pretending like you don’t know anything. Like those bitches!”

“W-w-w-what? Why do you suddenly say that!?”

“Because you have married, right? So that makes you a bitch, doesn’t it?”

“I-I-I’m not a bitch~! Because, I-I’m still...”

“What? I can’t hear anything. Generally, I don’t know what meaning it has for you.”

Mashu's face blushed and hanged down, she quietly looked at Hime with her seem-like-crying eyes.

“Uuuuu.....S-so.....W-what about Hime-chan.....?”

“Me?”

“You.....a-are the.....same.....”

“Hah!? H-how can it be! Because I’m still a vir(gin).....What are you talking about!?”

This time even Hime blushed like Mashu.

“More importantly, your act of crying is just fake right?”

“I’m not fake! I’m different from Hime-chan’s breast!”

“What do you mean!? Mine is real thing!”

For some reasons, a war happened at two sides. This atmosphere seemed like it would continue for a long time. Furthermore, if it was still like this, I would reach 'that' limit. I thought so.

I had to stop this.

At that time, Shizuku, still being timid like usual, showed the board with a red face—

『A disorder situation LOL.』

“Hey!! But, the content and attitude don’t fit each other!? Adding ‘LOL’ too, it looked really annoyed!”

『LOLOLOLOLOL.』

“You provoke me huh?”

Be angry but never pick a quarrel with a girl. That's my ideal.

So I ignored Shizuku and returned to Hime's problem. I thought that place needed a referee. So that they could be stopped and easily turn this problem into a fun dialogue. I stretched out my hands to stop them.

"Stop, you two! At this place I'm..."

Boing

"Hmph...What's this feeling?"

A strange sound. From the start I had never experienced the *boing boing* situation like this so this feeling was so soft.

'Don't say that.....?', I thought.

Because I had read a lot of rom-com novels so the simple situation like this could be predicted easily, but I never expected that it would happen to me. Was this the negative effect of lacking 3D resistance!?

Maybe some quick-witted people had already known that, the thing in my right hand was quite big, and in my left hand was so big that it didn't fit my hand, when swaying it created a *boing* sound.

Because I was not destined to it so I didn't know it was soft like that. Even knowing that by intuition wouldn't be enough.

Hime looked like she still didn't understand, her face looks listless. On the contrary, for some reasons Mashu was trembling with ecstasy face. My body had realized the seriousness of the situation and started reacting.



Aah, it seemed like I had reach 'that' limit.

The core of my body becomes hotter. My consciousness became all white

when I felt I had exceeded my limit.

xxxx

I was in the WC of the restaurant. I sit on the lid-closed toilet, remorsefully hanging my head.

“Again.....”

An overcastting feeling enveloped my body. Because I had never touched a 3D girl so my body completely couldn't resist. Although I remembered I had said it before, but the excitement feeling when facing the opposite sex of mine was...techno break!!

[TN: Techno break – the unusual symptom of body when secreting too much sex hormones (frankly speaking, it's when fapping or making love too much).]

No it wasn't.....more correctly, I just fainted. [Female Endurance Deficiency Syndrome], I had just known about it recently.

More specifically, it was right after entering high school. The reason was because I unintentionally interacted with a classmate, Kudou Misaki. It was just an accident. At that time, I had the same feeling but since then I hadn't interacted with any girls so I didn't notice.

That was why I hate this offline meeting.

After regaining consciousness, I smiled bitterly and said “I will go to the WC for a bit.....” then stood up and ran here. And of course I didn't need WC. I just simply thought “I'm done!” and just wanted to run away from that place. And now I was very worried.

However, despite repeating words and acts continuously, if nobody got surprised when I came back, it'd be really strange.

Why is Knight-sama being loved like that? Contrary to jealousy in the past, now I felt anxious.

While I was thinking with my eyes looking at the securely-locked door, the phone in my pocket suddenly rang. There was a message.

“Who sends message at this time huh...”

Reading while complaining, I saw that my mail box didn't only have Kyouya only. If it was not Kyouya then it'd be just spam or similar. Because that was a suspicious address.

But because I was curious more than scared so I decided to open it. The content was:

[Title]: Hello.

[From]: kishisama666@motmail.co.jp (TN: Kishisama = Knight-sama)

[To] wan_U-x-U@pocomo.co.jp

<Hello, it's me. The offline meeting is really fun right. But you suddenly fainted, it made me really surprised. Are you okay?

However, it seems like you have forgotten my confession and is enjoying the harem, doesn't it? As expected, you have never touched the breast of a lady, have you? This is just my comment. Right, Riel?>

After reading, my eyes opened wide. This tone, and even this 'Knight-sama' address.

It was undoubtedly his, Hugues's message.

How could he know my address? Furthermore, he even knew that I'm Riel.

Moreover, according to the content, he had observed us from the beginning. I hurriedly answer.

[Title]: Re: Hello.

[From]: wan_U-x-U@pocomo.co.jp

[To]: kishisama666@motmail.co.jp

<Hey, you. How do you know my address?

Moreover, surely you have laughed while observing everything, haven't you? You have pretended to be a customer right? Show yourself.

It's because of you that I have a lot of trouble. Why did you do that?>

I tried to guess. Hugues had come to the offline meeting as expected and hid somewhere to observe the guild members when they met in front of the

restaurant. However he suddenly realized there was a 'boy' other than him in the group so he pretended to be a customer and went inside, sat on the nearby table so he could hear us talking. Maybe he sent this message because he was angry that I was treated as Knight-sama instead of him...?

Or did he want to say "You have deceived me!" when knowing that I was a nekama.....?

I thought of many ways.....Uhmm.....There were too many so I couldn't explain it.

I put my hand under the chin. When I slightly sigh, my phone rang again.

[Title]: Re:Re: Hello.

[From]: kishisama666@motmail.co.jp

[To]: wan_U-x-U@pocomo.co.jp

<Oya oya, you said something really interesting.

Wasn't I standing in front of you a while ago?

And didn't I also exchange email address with you directly at that time?>

For the time being I forgot my anger and reply immediately.

<Are you talking in your sleep?>

And he also replied with a frightened speed.

<Do you know the phrase '2 acc'?>

2 acc.....2 acc.....

2 accounts!?

My head was spinning from his answer.

<Didn't I tell you? The person called Knight-sama was standing in front of you a while ago—

Is 1 of the guild members?

If we change our avatars, what will we become?

I think you know that more than anyone else, right?>

I finally understand what she was talking about.

[TN: from this point I will change 'he' to 'she']

Among 4 members appearing at this offline meeting today, one of them also owned the character 'Hugues', and controlled it. So that the 'boy' named Hugues didn't exist in this world. A while ago we exchanged email address with each other right? If it was that then I had understood why this message had my address.

Wait? If this email address matched one of those I exchanged a while ago, I can know who Knight-sama is right.....?

"Are, this is Free Email! ch—"

This girl was that careful? But, why did she have to do this?

At that time, a message came.

<Not replying means you have understood right?

So let's go straight to the main topic okay?

What do you think about your current situation?

Do you want to continue this 'harem' state?

Therefore, I want you to become the real "Knight-sama" from now on.

By the way, you don't have the right to refuse.

Because if you do so, I will spread all of the suspicious files in your PC on the Internet so people will know about it. Internet is very wide you know? You understand it, don't you?

How can you do that? You liar.

If you think like that then the files attached to this message below will be the proof.

I hope you enjoy the happy life of "Knight-sama".>

I opened the attached text file with hesitant fingers.

And here's 1 part of it.

«Melluna, you are the Ursa Major of my life.

In front of your dazzling light, there aren't any stars which can match up to. Compared to you, they are just dust.

Melluna, what are you looking for? I'm here?

Aah, melluna, melluna, melluna—»

“Holy shit!! What's this? Poem? Quite moved right.....A-re, THIS IS MY POEMMMMMMM!! I want to disappear right now!!!”

This was a poem about the trustworthy player of SWO, Melluna-chan. All of my feeling for her was written like a diary.

You could say that, it was the thing that makes me die painfully if I read it again.

Thinking about it, why did I write it?

Groaning didn't help me anyway. Moreover, it was a proof that my PC had been taken, it meant that every other poems were also in her hand, right?

Stop, please stop it!

If they were spread on the Internet, how can I go outside tomorrow?

However, how could she have them? Did she observe me somewhere?

First of all, I didn't know her motive and aim. What would she gain if I became Knight-sama? I tried to send a message to ask, but there was no response. Instead she sent me a message with the Account ID and Password of Knight-sama.

“She really wants me to become Knight-sama.”

But considering it, this condition didn't brought harm to me. I still could be together with the guild members, the nekama thing was also not revealed. I didn't have any other choices anyway. Standing in front of this difficult situation, I just had the option to agree obediently, right?

I opened the door with unpleasant feeling. I washed my face, adjusted my feeling and headed out.

I went to the table where 4 beautiful girls were still waiting for me. Shizuku

still had that poker face. Ricotta greeted me. Mashu didn't smile as much as before. Although Hime sulked, she still remained at that place.

If it was normal my heart would throb strongly when being with 4 girls, but on the contrary, when coming back, I felt like everyone was suspicious.

Because within this 4 people, 1 person was the real Knight-sama.

Chapter 3: Not good, My Stuffs Got Stolen

“Amazing!”

That was my first reaction.

It was the evening after the offline meeting. I immediately logged in to the Knight-sama’s account that I had received.

I looked at the status window, the level was 99. That was the highest level of this world. I had a shock when I looked at the strength stat. The item page was filled with items and equipments that I had never seen before. I didn’t even look at the skills page that can be learn from jobs.....the difference was too big.

This game was just opened for a few months. It was not easy to gain experience point in ZX, the average players were only at level 30, one could say that 99 was an unbelievable level.

“How the heck can one achieve this much...?”

Not only in appearance, this person really looked like a Haijin.

My hands were covered in a pair of silver armguards, I looked at my hands that had become bigger because of the gloves, tried to close and open them. This avatar was little uncomfortable. Felt really unfamiliar. Even though I was a little restless to meet them in this appearance ‘but we have already met during the offline meeting so why need to be afraid?’, I assured myself.

Changing avatar eh? Even if I don’t want to admit it, aren’t I before similar to a scary cat hiding under a cover? I will be myself if I use this avatar. Because I can talk to them like a “guy” instead of Riel, feeling much more comfortable.

Finished thinking this through, I went on to open the guild house like Knight-sama. But the door opened itself before I could do that.

“What do you think?”

“Hah?”

Because I was suddenly asked by Shizuku, who was standing inside the guild house, I was a little confused. There was a big gap between this girl and the girl

I met during the offline meeting.

“About this.”

After saying that, she slightly raised her skirt.

“It really matched, right?

“Y-yeah.....but, don’t raise your skirt like that!”

“How about it, isn’t the width of the ‘absolute territory’ perfect? Don’t you think so?”

TN: The areas on the thighs that are between the stocking and the skirt.

“You purposely don’t listen to what I am saying! Furthermore.....what kind of erotic style is this!?”

Shizuku pushed her chest forward, looked at me with a glamorous gaze in an unusual angle. Her posture looked like she was trying to imitate the gravure pictures of race queens.

“Isn’t this what you like?”

“That’s not what I mean.....how else should I answer that question?”

“You look cute today too.’ Like that?”

“Y.....y-you look c...cu...cu...cute too?”

“Ew...no difference from a pervert!”

“It was you who told me to say that!”

“It’s a little different from what I thought. Besides, this posture was outside of my calculation and I was pretty embarrassed too. Why did I have to do that?”

“Then don’t do it! Now that I think about it, what I said also makes me embarrassed!”

Truly unbelievable. That shy girl who I just met at the offline meeting... Nevermind, even if I am not unfamiliar to her weird way of talking.....where did her cute appearance disappear to? Did she always talk like this with Knight-sama?

Big, black pair of eyes looked at me affectionately as if she didn’t know I was

inside. This feeling was really unfamiliar. This was because Riel's height was much shorter than her.

While I was thinking about my first impression, I heard a voice coming from inside the guild house, then Hime showed up.

"Wait a second Shizuku, stop doing these useless things, I have decided that you will follow me!"

"Follow?"

When I was getting curious, I heard Shizuku grumble. Then Hime continued,

"That's right, we were discussing about hunting for drop item. How about Knight-sama going with us?"

"Drop item.....eh?"

Then she pointed at Shizuku's leg.

"It was about this pair of knee socks. Isn't it unfair for her to monopolized this cute item?"

"There is nothing unfair, I bought this with my saving money so what is the problem?"

"It is because this is yours that I am sure those were dirty money, right?"

"There is nothing dirty or clean about it. Money is money. Even if I didn't want to but I was hunting then so there was nothing I could do about it. Furthermore, the other party was focus on another goal. What would you suggest me to do?"

"Then, isn't this have nothing to do with money? And if you go out hunting then you should follow the 'first come first serve', right?"

When I said so, Shizuku shrugged her shoulder and showed a smirk.

"Aren't you thinking this too simple? I had to secretly strike a deal with the other party's head for them to go away."

"Then isn't that just bribery!?"

"What, to the end in this magical world, can't you buy anything as long as you have money?"

“Stop saying those irritating things.”

I said with a tired voice, but then Hime again pointed at Shizuku’s knee socks and said.

“A-ny-way, I also want that item.”

“Wait a second nya, Ricotta also wants that nya.”

“I-I-I am also~”

Ricotta and Mashu’s voice suddenly appeared from inside the guild house.

Look like everyone are attracted by the item [Lucky Knee Socks].

“Lucky Knee Socks eh.....But, it is true that it looks really cute.”

“.....”

“Huh...?”

Right after I mumbled so, I didn’t know if I was imagining or not but it was as if the surrounding atmosphere suddenly became cold.

“A-anyway let’s quickly find it!”

The atmosphere disappeared when Hime stepped up and grabbed Shizuku’s hand.

“Why do I still have to go?”

“What are you talking about? It is quicker if we all look for it together!”

The girls were still arguing with each other while leaving the guild house. And I was following behind them.

Even though I also paid attention to before.....but it was as if no one cared about if Riel has logged in or not?

This made me felt a little lonely.

The setting of MMORPG ZX Welt Online is a virtual world with six continents with six races living on them. Right now, our guild house was built as the capital of the Kingdom of Flore, on Firmus continent, where Human race rules. In the west and east is the Beast race and the Elven race, each race has their own continent and kingdom to rule over. But only these 3 races have diplomatic

relationship with each other. The other 3 races were being separated. It was like those regions were still in development phrase. Looked like those would be add in the later updates, but nothing happened right now. Those were the Robot race, Dwarven race, and Dragon race, I think? Anyway, we didn't care much about those news.

Our guild moved away from Firmus and headed westward toward Lima valley. A fresh green view. Rumored that monsters at this place would drop Lucky Knee Socks at this time.

Right now we wear on a small ledge that led down to the deep valley. When I looked ahead, I could see dozens of monsters walking around below the valley. Those two-legs monster looked like lizard, and their heights were about twice that of human.

“Ew, so disgusting! I can’t stand reptile~”

Hime wrinkled her face when she looked down to the valley. Even though they were not real but they looked pretty realistic.

“Uh, those were just eels~?”

I heard Mashu said so while pointing at those lizards.

“Eels? A...are you sure you have not mistaken? And more importantly...aren’t they look pretty slippery?”

I thought their name was Dark Lizardman, black skin, slippery, clearly were not eels. But where did it exist eel that walk on two legs anyway?

“But they are not the monster that will drop item that we are looking for. Only those with different color that appear once every 30 minutes would drop that item. If there is no one hunting it then it probably is just around here.”

“Truly is Knight-sama, you know everything nya~”

Ricotta expressed admiration while nodding her head.

Tsk, the reason I knew this was because I had come here before as Riel. But I did not find that item that time.

I glanced around the valley. And then I spotted inside the group of black eels... ah no, the group of Lizardman a gray one.

“Ah, there, there.”

“But, can we beat them at our current level?”

Hime asked anxiously.

“If there is only one then it is not strong. A solo fight can be possible. The only danger is that the surrounding monsters would group up, then we would be in trouble.”

“Even though it is not a good equipment but it is still hard to get.”

Exactly like Shizuku said, according to the explanation of her pair of Lucky Knee Socks then those were nothing special. Besides its standard defense property, it had Attraction +5 and Speed +1. It was called a fashion item. Normally its drop rate was really low, and only the monsters that were hard to hunt dropped them.

Shizuku lazily opened her status window and changing something.

“Ok, let’s finish this quickly. Because right now we don’t have a Healer that is Riel so, Ricotta!”

“Nya?”

Ricotta surprised, pointed at herself as if to ask “Me?”.

“Because you are an Alchemist so you will be responsible for recovery. So make a lot of potions.”

“Understood nya.”

Her hands made the posture of saluting.

“The main attackers will be Mashu and I. Then, the finisher will be you, lonely rabbit.”

“W-wait? Why am I the finisher!?”

“The Eleven race like you is inherently agile so it will be useful at that time. Isn’t that too appropriate?”

“No way no way no way, I don’t want to, don’t want!”

She must really hate to do this to deny this strongly.

“Didn’t we come here due to your wish?”

“Bu-but I don’t like this! I can be support.”

“The balance in jobs of our guild helps us hunt safety and effectively. Divide the responsibility like that is very appropriate.”

“If so then even a brush would be more appropriate the you!”

“A brush?”

“I mean the fur ball with the name that is like a traditional Japanese cake that you have always bring along.”

“Which mouth dare to call my Suama a brush or a fur ball?”

“This mouth!”

Hime pointed as her mouth which showed her irritation.

“Humph.”

“Humph.”

They intensely stared at each other. Just as normal. As this rate, I would need to step out to break this up.

“If you two like to, I can handle that position, right?”

When I said so, they looked at me with an expression that I didn’t know how to describe. *Did I say something wrong?* When I was thinking so, Shizuku and Hime opened their mouth at the same time.

““No need! We can handle this ourselves!””

I could not say anything before their aggressive responses. Furthermore, my level was too different to join the party, my experience point could not match theirs. Even though it was a little lonely, but if something wrong happened then I could support them. Now I knew being too strong was also unpleasant.

“Hey...let’s go.....”

The person who spoke with a shaky voice was Hime. Shizuku followed her and stepped down toward the valley. Opposite with their nervousness, Mashu and Ricotta were unusually energetic.

I looked at Shizuku's group on top of the valley. Hime was moving downward while using camouflage magic, one of the skills of Thief, monsters could not detect you unless you touched them. The further downward, the more nervous she became. Shizuku followed Hime while using item with similar camouflage effect.

A few moment later they had reached the bottom of the valley. Then, they stepped in front of those Dark Lizardman stand waiting there.

[[Awaaa.....]]

I heard a sound as if Hime's crying through the Guild Pierce. Immediately after, I saw the gray Lizardman moving toward Hime.

"It's nothing, nothing, th...that right, it's jelly. A cube of jelly that grown legs. I can do this, I can definitely do this..."

Looked like Hime was assuring herself. *But, if a jelly grown legs then.....it is even more scary!*

She pulled out a small bow from her waist, put in the arrow with shaking hands.

"O...ok...this distance is near enough....."

The bow string was pulled back. When she finished aiming and about to shoot then...

"Ouch!?"

Something hit the back of Hime's head, caused her to yell while falling forward.

ZX was just a virtual world but it still had feeling. Even though they were milder compared with the real world but if the temperature was hot then we would feel hot, the temperature was cold then we would feel cold. And of course the same with pain. When the view was flashing red due to being attack, a lot of players often yelled "ouch" by instinct.

Mah, are you curious about what just hit the back of Hime's head? Report, that was Shizuku's hand.

"Hey! What the heck are you doing!? This is the right opportunity!"

Hime opened her mouth to yell while turning back.

“What the heck is right opportunity. Look again, idiot.”

“Idiot? W-what!?”

“That monster is not our target.”

“What!?”

Shizuku pointed at the Lizardman that Hime was about to shoot. If look closely then one would see a small horn on top of its head.

“Even though the color is similar, it is a different monster. Its name is Hell Lizardman. With our levels then we would be instantly kill with one hit.”

“Geh.....”

Hime trembled.

I could feel that the speed of that horned monster was 3 times faster than normal. But its name did not turn red.

“Tsk, why is nobody show appreciation for me yet?”

“I...I am sorry.”

“Huh? I can’t hear what you just said.”

“I already said sorry! You succubus!”

“Su...succubus...?”

Looked like Shizuku was offended by those words. When I was thinking “the battle of words will begin again” then...

Grrrrrrrrr.....

I heard a growling sound from the surrounding.

Crap...is it that?

Shizuku and Hime seemed to also have realized, their faces went pale.

“...ahaha, umm...”

Behind their back was a gigantic Hell Lizard, its big jaw was opening with drool dripping.

““Ugyaaa!””

They both yelled, then ran away as fast as they could.

Due to previously Shizuku hit the back of Hime’s head so both of their camouflages disappeared at the same time. The Hell Lizard was nearby so it became agitated. Even worse, around it was a group of about 30 Dark Lizardman.

“Wh-what is this!? Unbelievable. Oi! Shizuku! Take responsible and do something hurry!”

“You too!”

They were running and blaming each other.

Their yelling expanded all the way up from the bottom the valley. When Mashu, Ricotta, and I got down then this scene happened. A giant army of Lizardman. Looking from afar was totally different from up close.

“This...is truly a little unbelievable...”

Couldn’t blame them for running away after seeing an army of monster like this. So both of them ran away together with all their might.

“Hii! Uhi-uhiiii!”

Hime yelled with an anxious voice that sounded a little funny.

But...who wouldn’t get anxious if they were to get chase around by a giant monster army!

“Opffy! I-I-I’m-I am gonna die, opffu!”

Red light effects showed that the players were being attack were continuously let off behind Hime. Every time like that her HP decreased.

“Hey, R-Ricotta! Hurry up and heal me!”

“Eh!? Wa-wait a second nya. I will do it immediately nya!”

Ricotta formed a potion bottle in her hand from the item window. Holding the potion in hand, Ricotta gave it to Hime, who was running for her life. However... on top of Ricotta’s head suddenly appeared an image of a strain of grass that was jumping around.

“Uwaaaaaaaa! I-I make a mistake nya!!”

“What!? What the? I cannot use this! Opffu...”

While Hime was getting angry. Shizuku was silently running even though her HP was also decreased significantly.

Then, an image of a folded skirt appeared. Running along with us, Mashu stopped and turned her body around.

“I will stop them.”

Pulling out a knife on her waist, she made a stopping posture. But she alone could not stop all of those monsters. *She simply wants to slow them down*, I thought that was it. So I immediately stopped my legs.

“Stop being stupid. Just leave this place for me, you and Ricotta hurry up ahead.”

“But...”

Mashu again showed tears in her eyes.

“You think level 99 are just trash? I will be ok.”

I said while showing a smile, she slightly nodded while her face turned red.

“But...if you cannot handle it then call for me immediately?”

“Ok.”

Mashu ran away while her eyes were still looking behind, I thought.

Then what will I do now...

Even though I said so previously but even level 99 could not fight solo against that many monsters.

I opened the status window. When I looked at the second skills window, I saw a strange skill symbol named [Accel].

I heard about it. This was a skill that had strict requirements, very rarely there were people who could learn it in the server. I even thought it did not exist and was only a rumor.

I think I can do this with this.

While I was getting excited, I heard a scream from ahead.

“W-what!? S-stop! Noo, kyaa!?”

“Ku, you beast, release me! A.....!?”

The Lizardman was poking the thin backs of Hime and Shizuku with its sharp nails, who was grabbed by it giant hand then threw them to the air.

That was the special attack posture of the Lizardman, ‘Press Attack’. When the players fell down, it will use hip press on the players with its giant body.

From my estimation, their HP will decrease to 0 after getting hit by this attack.

No hesitation, I pressed the symbol.

Immediately, the status window disappeared, my body was covered by an indigo fire effect. I could feel the skill’s effect permitting my entire body.

“Oo, this feels great! Ok, let goooo!!”

I heavily stomped the ground.

Then, the time around me stopped. Furthermore, my actions looked like it was a dozen times faster than the surrounding. This effect was called acceleration. Even my super heavy armor and the thick [Sword of Light] had no effects on my movement. Ignored the body effect, I dashed ahead.

While Shizuku and Hime were floating on the air, I pulled out the silver sword, dashed through the group of Lizardman like a flash of light. When I got to the end of the group of monsters then the effect of [Accel] also ended.

I quickly sheathed my sword and grabbed the two of them falling down by both hands. The group of Lizardman was cut apart after due to the delay in time, then turned into light particles and disappeared.

The notification window showed that my experience had only increased a little.

“But, this skill was really good.”

While I was admiring myself, Hime was surprised in my right hand.

“E.....eh? Huh? What just happened?”

Even though she looked like she didn't know what just happened but when she realized I was hugging her, her faced turned red immediately and hit my chest repeatedly.

"W-w-w-w-w-why.....h-h-h-hurry let me down!"

"Stop acting violent like that. Let's me bring you to the safe area."

"W-what did you just say? Th-this is embarrassing!?"

"I know, I know!"

Opposite with Hime who was repeatedly hitting my chest, Shizuku was docile lying on my chest. I thought I should get to a safe area where the was no monsters before I release them down.

ZX is truly great. Because it is online that I can behave freely like this.

"...hank you."

"Huh?"

Hime said something with her head down, but because it was so quiet I could not hear it.

"T-to thank you, I will give you something like, is the socks I have finished wearing ok? Of course it will be in real life. I-isn't you really want it.....o-ou-ouch ouch!!"

Hime held hear head while in pain. Shizuku knocked her head by the short flute characteristic of Tamer.

"What are you doing!? If you keep on hitting me it will become PK (Player Kill)!!"

""Humph, who told you to say those pervert things! Furthermore, how long have you been flirting?"

"What...!? Who are you talking about, when did that happened!"

Hime used her hands to cover her face and began to make weird gestures. Even though she said so but Shizuku faced has also became a little red... that was all I could say.

"To begin with, this was your fault, right?"

“What the heck are you saying? If I let you shoot that Hell Lizardman then it would have the same result.”

“Uu.....”

Maa, weren’t both sides in the wrong?

“I apologize for interrupting but, is it ok to just let it lie there?”

““Eh?””

I pointed my finger toward the ground nearby, an item shaped like a treasure chest was lying there. The green chest showed that the item inside was a rare item. Looked like when I destroyed that group of monster the Dark Lizardman (gray) was also in it.

Hime jumped down when she saw the chest.

“Eh, it’s real!? Lucky!”

“Oyaoya, nothing yet but this female pig has become excited.”

Shizuku shrugged, looked at Hime with a supercilious gaze.

“What did you just say?”

“It is still not yours, right? We still have to roll dice.”

“Hah? Dice? What the heck? Don’t joke with me!”

[[System Message]]

[Shizuku] suggested to kick [Shirousahime] out of the party.

[Ricotta] agreed (2/4).

A robotic voice sounded in the surrounding.

“Wait!? W-wait a second!! I got it, let me join!”

“That’s better.”

“Not yet, Ricotta! Why did you agreed!?”

“Who told Hime to try to cheat nya.”

Ricotta had already stood beside me without me noticing, with her cheeks blown up angrily. Then, the brave person who dare to face those monsters

before, Mashu, had also shown up.

I gave her a wink and smiled when facing Mashu. When I showed my feeling to say 'thank you for before' then for some reason she turned her face down embarrassingly.

Now, drop item is only 1, but the party has many people. Who will get this item? This was a normal occurrence in MMO. Times like these, the Dice Roll system became very useful. The player with the largest dice number would own the item.

That was the reason why they have begun rolling dice to decide who would get the item inside the chest.

[Mashu] has rolled. 1 point.

[Ricotta] has rolled. 2 points.

"Yes. Fufu, this time the goddess of luck is in my side."

Looking at the low point of other members, Hime looked like she was about to win.

[Shizuku] has rolled. 6 points.

"W-w-w-wait!! Why did you roll the dice!? You already have it! Even more you got 6 points.....so illogical!"

"That item has also contained my hard works. Stop complain when you acted as if you have won."

"O-of course I will win...look here!"

Because the system was designed so that the same number would not appear twice so I have already guessed her result before she even roll the dice.

[Shirousahime] has rolled. 5 points.

[Shizuku] gained ownership of the item.

"Hahh....."

Hime collapsed in disappointment. Because her disheartened look looked so pitiful so I comfort her.

“Maybe the sky market will sell that item, we will try to look for it later.”

“...but isn’t that item very expensive?”

“Re-really...?”

*That’s right, isn’t that why we have to go here to hunt.....*I suddenly realized.

“If I remember correctly then the item cost about 50 thousand gavas~”

Standing nearby, Mashu told us.

However, I stayed calm and asked back “gavas!?” . By the way, the currency of ZX was ‘Gran’. Shorten as ‘G’.

If that’s so then there is no way Shizuku will give up this valuable item...

Shizuku at this time looked like she was very satisfied while holding the item chest. However, she stopped midway.

“I can feel killing intent in the back.”

“Fu-fu-fu—”

Hime smiled evilly from the back of Shizuku, hand holding a knife, her secondary weapon.

“What are you trying to do?”

“Fufu. Isn’t it clear? Right after you opened that chest, I will steal it. This is the benefit of Thief. This is the right time to use the skill [Steal].”

“The name of the skill sounds just like you. Shameless.”

“Hahhh?”

Because the usual thing was about to happen again, Mashu, Ricotta, and I stayed quiet and backed away. Because we knew that there was nothing we could do.

[[Ok, hurry to open it.]]

[[Quiet. I will open it without you saying. But stand further away!]]

I heard those voices through the Guild Pierce. Then right after—

[[Wait, this...]]

[[Is it...]]

When I heard the sound of the chest open, then a sound like a roar of a monster appeared.

[[[[[M-Mimic!?]]]]]

That was a monster that looked like a chest, when opened then its big mouth will appear. My ears calmed down after the last scream.

Looked like both of them died.

I forgot that Mimic usually disguised as rare chest item. It was not a strong monster but after got attacked by the group of Lizardman, they were still not recovered, and only needed 1 hit to kill them— so I thought.

Guild Pierce again flashed on my ear.

[[What to do now?]]

I heard the angry voice of Hime, who right now had become a corpse. Shizuku, was also a corpse but her voice sounded pretty satisfied.

[[You yourself is a Thief yet you still got trapped, so funny LOLOLOLOL]]

[[You were the one who opened it!!]]

◇Offline◇

Playing as Knight-sama is not bad. I began to think so. Don't have to feel embarrass or meet any troubles. If this continues then the existence of the poem would be no problem. But I was still care about the person who forced me to became Knight-sama. To prevent confusion, from now on I will prefer the old Knight-sama as Hugues.

To the end what is the goal of that Hugues? I couldn't stop worry when thinking of that problem.

“Haayyy.”

This time once again was a tired breath. The phone lying on the bed began to ring. A message.

[Title] Itadakimasuta.

[Sender] Hugues[kishisama666@motmail.co.jp]

[Receiver] Keita [wan_U-x-U@pocomo.co.jp]

[Hi, it's me. This time hunting was enjoyable. I wish everyone can go hunting somewhere, that would be great.

Ah, only 2 of us is better. Fufu.

That's right, I messaged you today to let you know about Riel.

Ok, I have gotten Riel.

She is the person only for me. Ufufu. I will only let you know that this time.

Good bye, I will contact you later.]

Still that usual disgusting messaging style. But why do I feel like Hugues is a guy? Nevermind.

“But, what the heck was.....’I have gotten Riel’? What did she mean?”

I got a bad feeling, I hurriedly wore the ESG again.

On its black screen only showed the loading symbol at the bottom right corner. Immediately when the log in page showed up. Then I inputted the ID and Password of Riel by the keyboard appeared in the air.

[[Password incorrect.]]

“Huh? Did I put it in wrong?”

I inputted it again.

[[Password incorrect.]]

“Hah!?”

I thought I did not input it wrong. Because I remembered it deep in my heart.

I removed the ESG from my head and opened the table drawers.

“It has to be somewhere here...account confirmation that was sent from the software company.”

That was an orange ATM card. With it I can confirm my password. But—

“It’s not here...”

I could not fine the account confirmation.

I clearly put it away in the top drawers. And I don't remember getting it out.

But no matter how much I look, even other drawers, I still couldn't find it.

Let's think again.

Password that I remembered is wrong. Account confirmation is missing.

I thought I could guess 2 scenarios. Someone had stolen my account confirmation, that was the only way to change Riel's password. And the thief was no other than Hugues.

In the message, he wrote "I have gotten Riel."

It implied that he had stolen Riel from me.

"Is it real...but, why Riel..."

Because of this that he gave me Knight-sama to exchange? But, it's weird? Isn't it a loss to exchange a level 99 avatar for a level 27 avatar.

Ahh, so that's it. From the beginning, the target of Hugues is Riel? Because of that that he made me keep silence? But, there are not good equipment on Riel, and there was no other appeal. What special points does he see on Riel? Furthermore, what does he intent to use Riel for?

The thief has gotten into my house, and even logged in illegally into my account?

A cold wind blew behind my neck caused me to tremble.

I feared of what way he got in. Where he stalked me, I completely didn't know. I just felt that I was a target of a stalker.

Anyway, I thought I should lock my door carefully when I get out of the house from now on.

Chapter 4: Not Good, The Cat Girl Looks Like an Alien

◇Offline◇

That was an unexpected meeting.

That day, the weather was unusual from early morning, when I just got home from school then I saw a suspicious shadow that was hiding at the door.

After the burglary incident last time, I had bought and set up a simple security system from Home Center.

It was set up so that the shell of the key was also an important part of the lock, it would take a while to open normally. Looked like the person who was trying to open it was struggling for a long time.

That suspicious person wore a cap that covered both eyes. However, the small body and that sailor uniform, a glance could also see that it was a girl.

In my head I was thinking of one person. The person who burglarized my home. Yes, the real of Hugues. *I finally catch you on the scene. This will be an unexpected blow for her. I will catch her!*

However, if I were to yell out right now then she would run away. I thought the best way was for me to hide behind the shadow of the gate, sneak behind her back and “Caught you!”. But if I were to do so then the action of me tightly hugging a girl would not be too good for my immunity. Therefore, I decided to use the umbrella that I had to lock her arms, and would reduce accidents.

I held the umbrella in a low posture and slowly moved toward her unsuspected back.

And then, when I touched her dedicated arm—

“Hyiioo!?”

Along with a dizzily yell, her body was as if frozen. How to say this, instead of the targeted arm, I had touched her waist.

“Ah, sorry sorry!”

I hurriedly apologized about the accident caused by my unintended action.

“W-what?!? O-oh, not good!”

Because everything was happening so fast, her cap fell down. Immediately after, the silver hair inside got exposed. An ahoge stood straight on top of her head. There couldn't be mistaken with this hair color. A familiar face was blushing furiously underneath that silver hair.

TN: Ahoge is the string of hair that pop up on top of the character's head.



“R-Ricotta!?”

“Eh??”

She hurriedly touched her head and realized that her cap was not there anymore.

“Houwaaaa!?”

Looking at her surprisingly, I thought ‘It’s really Ricotta?’ while the weird sensation I felt during the offline meeting appeared again.

“Hmm... looks like I was right when I thought I have met you from somewhere.”

“Hah? H-How could that have happened nya! No way nya! Ehehe...”

She talked using her Cat-Mode speech and smiled nervously. But I stood my ground.

“Sorry.”

I stepped forward on step and looked straight at her.

“.....a~”

She blushed and gave out a sound as if she was breathing hard, but I didn’t care.

“U...”

I closely observed while holding back.

I remember that I have seen this face structure from somewhere. Feel like it is in my memories a long time ago but I did not see it for a while, for example.

Furthermore, isn’t that the uniform of the middle school in my town?

Besides, those teeth and that voice slowly caused me to remembered of someone in my subconscious.

“Umm... i-is true... that you are... Rio?”

“W-what!? Rio? W-who is that nyan?”

Although she opened her mouth to deny but looking at her unkempt appearance. There were no more doubts.

Look like my weird feeling during the offline feeling was not mistaken.

“It’s you! Sagimiya Rio, my little sister, right?”

“Don’t just suddenly decide someone is your little sister nya, I don’t like it nya.”

“Hoho, is that so?”

After I calmed down, I suddenly grabbed her hand.

“Come inside to talk with me for a bit.”

“Fuee!? W-wait!? No, let me go!”

I dragged the struggling hand of Ricotta (Rio) into the house.

A moment later, Ricotta and I... ah no, Rio, was sitting in the living room.

Even if I was her older brother, I could not recognize my younger sister face. However, from her hair style to her behavior and gestures, to even her voice was completely different from the Rio that I knew. I heard that women could transform themselves by makeup but I had never saw that before. Even more, nowadays we were selfdom meet so this may be a good opportunity.

“Even though I was almost did not recognize you but... what is the meaning of your current appearance?”

“Nyanya? What’s wrong nya? I don’t understand what is Knight-sama talking about nya.”

“.....”

The action of pretending to have cat paws of my sister caused me to be a little worried. It was true that it was very cute but stop thinking that it could distract me.

“Fine, then I have this method.”

I held onto her ahoge and pulled strongly.

“Eii, I will tear away this disguise cover!”

“Oiiiiiiiiii!?”

Immediately, she yelled out.

“I-it is real.....ah!?”

I stood there blankly with my hand released. But, I truly could not understand,

she was clearly my little sister Rio.

“Hey... although I don’t know how you do it but you surprised me. Even your behaviors are different from Rio. Anyway, can you stop this play? Even if to you I am just a useless older brother, but I would rather you hate me than to transform yourself like this, right?”

“I told you I don’t know who is Rio nya? And why would Knight-sama get hated nya?”

“Still continue... you hate me enough to not want to stop this?”

Although her behavior was as if forcing me but her appearance became brighter than ever.

“Huhun♪ Did something wrong happened to you nya? Like I have said before, isn’t Ricotta an Nyanya alien came from the Nyanya planet nya?”

Is my little sister a necromancer? Did she possessed an alien to come back? Or is there something wrong with her head? But anyway, letting this continue would not be good.

Thinking so, I decided to become dignified.

“I don’t care what you are saying but if you continue to pretend like this, I will cut off our relationship.”

“Eh♪ Really so nya?”

“Why are you look so cheerful!?”

“Because—if do so then I can freely flirt with Knight-sama without worry about us being siblings nyan♪.”

“Hah?? What-did-you-just-say!? That last sentence is no different from admitting that Ricotta = Rio!”

“Ufufufufufufufufu.....fuu—, fuu—”

“What the heck, what with this laughter and breathing that sounded like they are coming from a wild animal!?”

“I am just satisfied by imaging the happy future life with Knight-sama nya.”

“Satisfy my ass! What the heck are you thinking about!?”

“Thinking about a lot of things nya. Like how we will have at least 5 children for example.”

“You...! Do you know what the heck you are saying!? We are biological siblings? Retract what you said! Retract it!”

“Ueeeeeeeeeeeee!?”

“This matter is unbelievable!”

I truly didn’t know what the heck she was thinking.

“First of all, why are you dressing like that, and that weird behavior? You look completely different from the Rio that I knew! It is true that we have not met for a while but... at least you did not look like this before.”

“B...because.....uu.”

“Eh? Ehh?”

Suddenly, her tears began to roll down. And I still didn’t understand anything. Did I say something wrong?

“Because...uu...it’s not like I want to be...like this...sniff...”

“Aa.....did I say something hurtful to you?.....I-I am sorry.”

Her shoulder shook slightly while her tears were rolling down.

“Ricotta...like onii-chan a lot..... This is my real feeling. But because we are biological siblings so having feeling for each other is a little not good.....I thought so. Having to meet each other every day, I couldn’t control my feeling. So I decided to live far from home. However...”

Her voice became hesitant.

“However?”

“Right now I have a reason to not have to hold back anymore. Ehehe.”

“What kind of reason is that!?”

“Therefore, can you call me Ricotta?”

“Uh.....”

My nose blushed, I couldn’t say anything in front of that stare and those eyes

that were still wet with tears.

Maybe it is better if I try to do what she said...right?

This maybe a good opportunity. If I do so then I may be able to cross that small separation that have prevented us from speaking in recent years.

“Ah, umm... you are Ricotta, a Nyanya alien from the Nyanya planet, right?”

“Right nya.”

Even though I felt like that setup was kind of nonsense, but from now on I would call Rio as Ricotta. And Ricotta looked really happy! That was conveyed by every gesture on her body. If she had a tail like in online then right now it would be swinging constantly out of happiness.

“But why are you must be an alien?”

“Because if I did not do so..... onii-chan would not accepted me, right?”

“What?”

I pledged my innocent by asking back.

“If I am not your younger sister than you will push ahead instead of back down, right?”

“Haaaaa!? Push ahead my butt! You are my little sister! That is the truth! Even if you are an alien it would be the same!!”

“Knight-sama is a person who more interested in 2D girl than 3D girl nya, therefore I thought you would like weird girl like this nya.”

The “brother” guy inside your head is truly the weird one, I thought.

Ricotta slowly stood up from the sofa and sat down next to me. Then she tightly hugged my arm and lied on my shoulder.

“H-hey.....what are you doing?”

“Expressing my love nya.”

“Hey!?”

Ricotta coiled herself, looked just like a cat.

“W-what are you thinking!? We are...”

“Ricotta and Knight-sama. Is there any problem nya?”

“No no, isn’t this really bad? Face reality already!”

“Then you just need to say that Ricotta have no biological relationship with you, only stepsiblings then I would be fine.”

“Stepsiblings... how can this be solved like that! But hey, s-stop right now...”

“Ufu, ufufufufufu.....”

Ricotta lied her blushed face on my lap.

“Uh, h-hey! I can see your chest underneath the collar of your school uniform!”

“You can look as much as you like nya.”

She looked at me with a “Was there anything wrong?” face, and even pulled down her collar further. *The girl in front of me, whether is Rio or Ricotta, isn’t still my stepsister, right?* While I was thinking so then, a strain of silver hair floated across the tip of my nose, releasing a fainted aroma.

Think about it, I had this feeling from before. In the family, only she has different facial characteristics, causing me to always thought that she did not share the genes from the 3 of us (my parents and I). Because of that, if it is true that Ricotta is only my stepsibling then that kind of thing completely is possible...

No, no way that can happen! No way! At that time, a very familiar feeling ran through my bones. *I-if this continue then it will be bad!*

“W-wait!”

I pushed Ricotta away while standing up. Because it was too suddenly so she was surprised, I also did not know what to say, the two of use stayed quiet.

Why does the atmosphere suddenly become like this, what do I have to do?

“Ah, that’s right. Do you want to eat ice cream? Today the weather is too hot. Ahaha...”

I could only have thought of that one pathetic thing.

Anyway I still walked toward the fridge and got a pair of Pabico (yogurt) out. I quickly returned to the sofa, broke it into two and gave Ricotta half.

“This is yours.”

“.....a, thank you nya.”

She accepted it embarrassedly.

After calming down, I tore open my tube and began to suck the inside.

Remember before the two of us would often eat together like this. Those time, Rio have never been able to open it herself.....right?

“Mmm— uu—.....”

I thought I heard a sound like someone was trying too hard. *Of course, is she still trying to open her Pabico tube? Truly have not changed.....at all?*

“Do you want me to help?”

“I can do this myself.”

She stubbornly denied and continued. Truly was the worst habit.

“Ah... don’t use so much strength like that!”

“N-no problem, it will be...fine—fine!?”

Rip

The ice cream inside blown away like mayonnaise.

I have told you.

“It gets all dirty...”

Ricotta made a face (><) with ice cream stuck all over her.

Truly was still clumsy like always.

“Just keep it like that for a moment. I will go get the towel.”

I left her there and ran toward the restroom. But there was only my and my parents’ towel, so I had to spent more time looking through the closet. When I just came back into the room with the new towel in hand then,

“Uh?”

Ricotta had disappeared.

In return, I heard some sounds coming from the second floor. *Probably*

because I was too slow so she has gone up there, I thought so while going up the stair. Of course the ruckus was coming from Rio's room.

More clearly, if one's clothes got dirty then one will change clothes, that was normal.

And the person who stood on the other side of the wide-opened door was Rio.

When I was asking myself on why did she have to take off her lower part first then the picture of cat printed on her panty hit my face. *This taste, truly she is still Rio from the past*, I thought so while her body froze like a statue, hand holding cat ears, face redder like a tomato.

“...—!?”

I knew she wanted to say something but I lost my consciousness before I had heard them.

Chapter 5: Not Good, Shizuku's Black Tea Tastes Suspicious

◇Offline◇

Looks like after the event that day, Ricotta (Rio) had a change of heart, she suddenly moved back here to live with me. However, a few days had gone by yet I still wasn't able to ask her about Hugues's matter. Because whenever I talked about ZX she became quiet, so there was nothing I could do.

I still didn't know why would she do that. *To the end, what does she want?*

Even after all of that though, the Earth was still turning, and weekend arrived in a blink of an eye.

I had a part-time job at a coffee shop in the weekends. Although I used most of my income for stuffs related to ZX, but I also opened a saving fund for other stuffs like anime, game, manga, or events like summer and winter festival. To an Otaku, there were a lot of things one would like to buy, but unfortunately one's moneys were always too little.

Exiting the house like usual, I headed toward the nearby shopping center. Because the coffee shop that I worked part-time at was there. *If it was a place in front of the station then it would be super busy, but my part-time job was pretty normal, what about yours?* The old man in the neighborhood said so. How to say this, that was a place where housewives tended to go to. Because they were all familiar customers, my job was relatively simple. Even if I thought 'if only the hourly wage was raised a little', I couldn't say those demanding things.

The ground floor of a little old building. On the signboard had [RPG Coffee].
"Welcome."

The sound of the bell that contained an air of nostalgia rang out when I opened the door. Even though I had already familiar with it every time I walk into the store but this way of attracting customer was truly not bad.

It seemed like that this store had been opened since the owner had bought this abandoned old store with his saving moneys. Even though it went through redecoration, the inside of the store seemed not much better compared with the store's front, *it is completely contradicting with bringing good feeling to the customer*, I thought.

"Oh, you've come, boy?"

When I just stepped inside the store, a woman inside the golden wooden counter looked up and showed a smile as if she was waiting for me.

That woman was the owner of this store, the person that I called Master. Although I had been working here for a while but I still didn't know her real name. She always called everyone by the name "boy".

I thought that was the reason why I was hired to work here, really.

Long hair that got tied into a pony tail was the everyday look of Master. Although it looked really pretty but that was also a problem. She was already 28 years old. She looked younger than her age, even her style was the same. Felt just like an adult. Her face looked just like a usual beauty.....some of you may thought this was the best place to work but the truth was not so. I did not feel anything that could be call female from her. Even my lower part did not feel anything. I thought that was because her personality was exactly like that of a man. It was really impolite to said so. But right now, it looked like she was planning something.

"What's with that look?"

"Nothing, it's just habit, you know that."

She said so while her hands were lifting her chin, eyes staring at me, and the corner of her mouth raising up.

"I don't know. Completely don't know anything."

"Doesn't human sometime have to put up with illogical things? Like in [Xunogears] disk 2 for example."

(TN: Xunogears is Xenogears reference)

"Don't your illogical things happen all the time? Furthermore, can you please

give up that habit of your that compares everything with game?"

"What—, but Xuno is a masterpiece right?"

"You don't listen at all! I agree that it was a masterpiece but..."

"Then isn't it OK already?"

'OK my butt!', while I was thinking so, she took off her apron, then covered it over my head. I am somewhat anxious about the heat and fragrant that were still lingering on it.

"Then, depend on you."

"Depend on me...? Uh, wait!"

I called Master, the person who already disappeared into the store.

"Again?"

"Is there something wrong? The preparation is already completed, customers are all like usual. You alone are enough, there is no problem."

"There is a lot of problem. How can the store owner leave the store like that hah!?"

"I am betting on a life of 'how to live without having to work'!"

"I can't believe you could say something like that!"

"You can only dive yourself into ZX when you are at home anyway, right? Instead of that why don't you go out to work normally huh?"

"But I am still just a student!"

"Uh uh, student. You student life doesn't have anything that can be called youth anyway right? Then it's better if you just go to work."

"What the heck is with that reason!? But, I don't want to hear those things from you!!"

"If you are missing your youth then you can buy "precious memories'. 3 days 2 nights with a price of 1000 yen."

"I-don't-need-it! But hey, let's stop this!"

"Oh, then let's stop."

“What do you mean by that!?”

As if she knew my anger had reached the limit, she quickly returned to her tatami room and started something with the PC. I was sure those were just games. Because as if she was playing a lot of different online game even more than me.

From RPG, masterpieces from previous years, to MMORPG, newest masterpieces, a person who loved RPG like that, named this store as ‘RPG Coffee’ was nothing unusual. I had seen that tatami room one time and was surprised to see inside had a bunch of old game.

“Wait a second, Master.”

I opened the old sliding door by a force that I felt a little bit violence and poked my head inside. Her head was wearing ESG, a gallery was showing on the PC screen.

Right when the screen just showed the image of an avatar that she was about to log in then...

“Boy!? D-do not go in at this time!”

She realized my present thought the ESG with an embarrassed face and used both hands to push my outside. Then, the sliding door behind closed with a *xoach*

“What the heck...”

But according to the image from the screen then that was ZX? Because I was still not able to see the avatar of Master so am I just feeling something? I thought so in regret, and could only imagine myself meeting her online to decrease that feeling.

Like you have seen, Master was a heavy Game otaku + lazy store owner. Every time I came to work I would be forced to work at the cashier, that stupid owner.

However, there was one thing that I really appreciated from her. That was because of Master than I could exist in ZX. Because I had fallen in front of the screenshot that love-just-by-look of Melluna-chan that I had asked her to give me my wage in advance to buy ESG that day. Maa, that was a big favor.

“Sh—, just let it go...”

I let it go and started to check the inventory in the counter.

There was no customer inside the store. Even if there was they would just be regular customers. A rundown store like this how could it attract new customer; only look at the face without needing to hear the order, I could still prepare everything because familiar customers always ordered the same thing.

Maa, because of that that I alone was enough.

“Now, look like I need to cut salad for the sandwich.”

When I just thought so and picked up the knife...

“Welcome”

A gentle figure appeared, that was a small girl with black hair, down all the way to her waist.

And of course, she was a regular customer here. Although before I used to think ‘that is a beautiful girl’ but, customer and cashier, our relationship was only so. Because I had decided that serving customer was only my normal job.

I walked toward the table she was sitting at and asked for her order. Even though I had already guessed that it would be the same as always.

Before I arrived at her seat, she had knocked her finger *knock knock* on the table.

Right, that was her way of ordering. That meant the same as usual.

“Royal milk tea right? Please wait a moment.”

Finished saying so, I have just turned around but I heard a sound of strong knocking on the table.

Did I say something wrong? Is today's order different?

When I hurriedly turned back...

[+ Baked Chocolate Bread.]

“Oh is that so, there will also be baked chocolate bread today ah.....but wait, is it.....”

A white board was risen up. I could not forget the existence of this white square.

“You are... Shizuku!?”

The girl nodded embarrassingly.

It was true that if looked closely then her behavior was no difference compared to during the offline meeting. It was just that, she looked really different without her hood, because her outfit right now was not the Gorochu pajama but a normal skirt so I couldn't be help but not recognized her.

“So it turned out that you are a regular customer all this time.....? But I didn't realize it.....”

[It proved that you do not care about other people.]

“I don't think that is the reason. It's just that I am somewhat sensitive when a real girl is a few meters around my personal space.”

[Pervert to an unbelievable level.]

“I'm not a pervert!”

Truly, even though on the outside she looked like a cute girl but on the inside, she was the same as when online.

When I was being disappointed, she placed her board with a new writing on the table.

[HURRY UP WITH THE MILK TEA!]

TN: She wrote this in Romanji, English alphabet version of Japanese.

“Hai hai. But wait, I can't read that, yo!”

I returned to my counter, prepared things that Shizuku had ordered and brought it to her. When I just placed the plates and cups down in front of her then,

[Can you sit down?]

She raised her board and pointed at the opposite chair with nervous eyes.

“No, I am working.”

Shizuku erased the first two words.

[Sit down.]

“Really... ok ok, I will sit down.”

Still wearing the apron, I sat down on the chair opposite with her. *Although it is still working hours but beside us, there is no one else here, and even if there is someone stepping in I can still deal with it immediately so it is ok*, I thought so.

Immediately, she put in so much sugar that I thought ‘is she trying to cover the milk tea’ and swallowed a bite of the sweet baked chocolate bread. Instead of a person who liked sweet things, I started to think if her blood was made out of syrup. ‘So good~’, those words escaped her mouth by the speed of light.

In the end what kingdom of sweets is this girl living in? Sugarpia?

Think about it, during the offline meeting, she was also drinking sweat milk tea. Because there were many people so I did not pay attention.

“Let me ask a question, why was during the offline meeting, you dressed like that? The Gorochu outfit fitted you very much, looked really...uhm...”

If paid attention then you could see Shizuku’s body was twitching out of nervousness. Embarrassed face as if it was about to be on fire.

[Looked really what?]

“Eh?.....really...cute.....for example.”

Shizuku’s body twitched one more time. *Is she...happy??*

After a while, she began to explain about her Gorochu outfit.

[That was Anti-dark material.] (対魔装束)

“Hah?”

I let loose a sound while thinking ‘is something growing in her head?’. *She is funny.*

[The miasma of this world corrodes my body.]

“What the heck is this detailed Chuunibyou!? Are you living in heaven?”

Even though I was just kidding but she slowly pointed her finger toward the

ceiling and wrote:

[I live up there.]

After I thought for a while, I answered.

“Up there..... ah ah, think about it, on top of this store is an apartment.....but, you really live there!?”

Shizuku slowly nodded.

I couldn't have thought that her house was right on top of this place. Then that meant my house and her house were only separated by a 10-minute walk!?

“Then, why when you came here you didn't wear that.....Anti-dark outfit?”

[The outfit is in maintenance period. This store is in the effective area of the shield so I don't need to wear it.]

“Ah...”

While I pretended like I had understood, I thought ‘is it like the WIFI range?’

“Even so, I wish that during the offline meeting, you would have told me that we know each other.”

[If I carelessly revealed myself to a pervert, then I would have been attacked.]

“Who is the pervert hah!?”

[→]

“You don't have to write it every time. It's fine to just point using your finger, but hey, what are you doing...”

[↓]

“Where are you pointing that!? That is m...hey, put it way!”

I got angry and pulled away the board from below the table from Shizuku's hand.

However, that action felt like it grabbed my heart. Right after I pulled the board, her face got covered by a sadness liked a child just got her toy taken away.

“I.....apologized, Here, I return it.....”

[↓]

“Heyyy!!”

Please forgive me, I was an idiot.

“First of all, why are you using the board?”

[So that the people from the force of darkness cannot steal the heavenly language.]

“Huh, so strict? Never mind, I am going to return to my job.”

Because I couldn’t sit for too long so I held the tray and stood up. But, she did not let me go that easy.

[Service will have tip.]

“I am sorry, our store does not have that kind of service.”

[Go into the kitchen and bring a pot of Assam tea here.]

“Talk just like those old drunkard, but that is just regular black tea.”

[But there is a bug inside this milk tea?]

“There’s no way! Don’t say misleading stuffs like that!”

What the heck? Is she trying to stop me from going back to work?

“Hey, right now I am in my working hour, I have told you that just now right? Hmm? What?”

[If that’s so then I have work for you♪]

“What work?”

Shizuku pointed at the POP menu on the table. On it was the title ‘Special! Hand-made fruit cake – 250 yen’ along with a picture. It looked like a characteristic traditional cake of England to go along with black tea.

[Is it really hand-made?]

Shizuku raised her board nervously and embarrassedly.

“Ah, that? Although other foods in the menu are brought from a different place, but for this particular cake we make it ourselves. It is really delicious, it

said so right there.”

[Knight-sama’s hand-made?]

“Although they mainly are the works of my Master but I have also participated in cutting the ingredient and mixing the batter. To say that I do half is not really wrong.”

[If so then give me one.]

“Eh? Ah, is it an order?”

I wish she would have told me that from the beginning without going around like that.

“By the way, you mouth still has chocolate.”

I said that right when I was about to walk away. Even though at this time she was using the napkin already prepared on the table but it looked like she was wiping the wrong place. *Is it too late to tell her that now?*

“It’s right here!”

Although I had pointed at my mouth to show her but she just raised her napkin.

“What does that mean?”

[Wipe it.]

Writing so, she showed her lips with a blushed face. If I had to describe it then she was twitching just like a baby bird.

“Why do I have to...”

[Wipe it.]

“You know it right? I am a very pure guy.”

[Did you mistake it with a pervert guy?]

“No way!”

I get it. She knew that I cannot get close to 3D girl but still trying to mess with me? If it is her then I can do it. I will not surrender.

“O-ok...if you said so then I will do it.”

I grabbed the napkin from Shizuku with a shaking hand, then moved it toward her lips.

What is this.....!?

The soft feeling got transmitted to the tip of my fingers through the napkin.

Aa.....not good. Although it is not directly but if I don't do it fast then.....

I wiped the stain quickly and pulled back my hand before that no good feeling appeared again.

“Fuu...”

I have endured it. Can this be called an improvement?

[Thank you.]

“Ah, no problem...”

When I said so, she hid her face on the table. Her ears which showed under her black hair turned red just like cherry.

I paid attention to that as I returned to my job.

And then I continued to work non-stop like usual even when the end of my ship had arrived.....

“Boy.”

Master, who finally decided to return when the store was about to close, called me.

“What?”

“Because your ship has ended so you can go home.”

“Eh, is that ok?”

“You have an important mission which is to bring that girl home, right?”

“That girl?”

Master moved her eyes toward the seat next to the window. Right there was the figure of Shizuku sleeping on the table.

“Looks like she is drunk.”

“Drunk...?”

What? Why? When did this place become a bar?

When I walked to the place she was sleeping, it was true that her face was a little red.

“No way...is it because of this...”

“It may very well be.”

I thought the reason was because of the plate on the table. On it was exactly that fruit cake.

“It may be because I put wine in it.”

“Then that’s it, if not then how could this have happened.”

“Then there is nothing we can do. Thing has already happened so, depend on you, boy.”

“Hah?”

“You are closed with the girl, right?”

“Uh... I know her but.....”

“Then that is decided.”

“Stop deciding it yourself...eh...”

Master suddenly threw out my stuffs. Couldn’t you hand them to me gently??

“Anyway you couldn’t leave her here, right?”

Master closed her eyes and nodded with a deep look.

“What do you mean!?”

I thought about it a little. *It is true that I cannot leave Shizuku here.....even thought I have to bring her home but it looks like her house is just right on top of this, if that is so then...*

“I understand...”

When she heard my answer, Master looked at me with a big smile on her

face.

Even if I said so, how can I bring her home? Even though I tried to shake her shoulder but there was no response. *Then the only way is to carry her on my shoulder, but I have no experience carrying a girl.* ‘How to carry a fragile creature like this?’, I thought so. *Furthermore, ‘that’ may come again if I get close to her.*

Oi.....what to do?

Ahh, that’s right!

I suddenly had an idea. *I just need to imagine carrying a rock on my back. And while carrying her, I will just face forward, then I will not have to face those visual stimulation.* So I decided to carry Shizuku on my back.

“Let’s do this...”

I turned my back toward that oblivious sleeping girl and extended my arms backward. First started to lift her body up...

“Hauu.....!?”

Unbelievably soft. I mean, this is not a rock! Change of plan, her body.....ah that’s right, like a big bag that is filled with water. Right, water. If it’s that then it will be fine. Even though I thought so but her scent made me recall of a kind of flower that blooms in the beginning of summer.

Then I lifted her up on my shoulder with all my focus. And...although small but I could feel two soft lumps imprinted on my back. Even so, I still didn’t really care.

Carrying her on my back, I moved toward the door of the store. Then, Master’s saying had stopped me.

“Boy, are you going to cook Sekihan tomorrow?”

TN: Red bean rice cooked in celebration. Like in this case it is used after a marriage.

“There isn’t anything to celebrate!?”

Ignored Master’s joke behind, I stepped out of the store, then continued to

step on the stair in the side. Even though this was a 5-stories building but it looked like there was no elevator. Truly was an apartment.

Think about it, I don't know what room she is staying at.

When I tried to look at the mailboxes next to the stair, I discovered the name [Ayahane Shizuku]. Even though I didn't know her real name but beside this I couldn't see any other possibility. Because next to the name there was a sticker advertisement of ZX Welt so it thought '*this is it*'.

"Room 502, why is it have to be the highest floor?"

I tiredly stepped on the stair while thinking about many things. Such as '*that is the real name of Shizuku?*'. Or '*if written her full name on the mail box like that then doesn't that mean she lives alone?*'

I was running out of breath when I reached the highest floor.

There was no light from room 502. Also no reply when I rang the doorbell. And the door was closed of course.

"What to do now..."

I lingered in front of the door for a while. But then I suddenly recalled that I felt there was something in her belt through my hand.

"Hauu.....!?"

Soft to a dangerous level. If she were to wake up now then I would be dead, but there was nothing I could do. Fortunately, I quickly was able to find the key from her skirt's pocket.

Thanks Gods! Then I used it to opened the door.

"Sorry for intruding.....?"

It was not pitch black on the inside, there was something that gave out faint light. When I walked into the room I found the source of that light was the large amount of working PC screen.

"When is this, so many..."

Even I only need one PC dedicated to ZX, why would she need this many? In total, there were ten light sources, counting the light coming from the electric

outlets on the shelf.

Anyway let's put her down first.

When I turned on the light then this was a six-tatami mat room. Half of it was PC shelf, the other half was the bed. Because whenever mention of girl's room, one always imagines of the color pink, therefore I was a little bewildered by this tasteless room. But because of the Gorocho outfit that was hanging on the wall so there was no longer any suspicion, this was Shizuku's house. Immediately, I threw the white board on the bed and dropped the object on my back along with it. A *fwap* sounded appeared, that living object rolled onto the bed.

I had a scare. Even though I pretended that object was a water bag but that situation from before had pulled my back to reality. Just thought about the idea of this sleeping girl was lying on my back a moment ago caused my inside to heat up. I sneakily gazed at her face, black hair, long and tangledly that lied along her smooth chin, liked an egg that gave off attraction. Truly she looked just like a doll, her skin had no discoloration. The only difference was her joints were not ball-shaped. I unknowingly extended the tip of my fingers to touch her lovable cheek but I stopped myself in time.



“What am I doing...?”

I turned my conscious to another place to escape this violent attraction. And

the first thing that fell into my sight was a PC screen. On it appeared the window of ZX Welt Official Server. *How can this window have appeared without login in?*

I asked myself while moving my gaze around, and then I saw many more weird things.

[You can also become hacker – Instruction]

[Weekly cracking technology]

[Instruction to invade illegally right now]

[Absolute invasion! Cracker-san]

[Monthly hacking runner]

“All dangerous books! It is a surprise to see so much of this kind of book got published.”

What the heck is she trying to do? Or did she finish it? But anyway, this is still dangerous.

In this situation, all I could think off was the act of cheating ZX Welt Sever and rewrite avatar’s information, or even worse... steal account and password of other’s avatar... *And right now, aren’t I also a victim?*

“It can’t be...”

I looked at Shizuku’s face. Her sleeping face looked cute like usual.

Since my account was lost, I had always thought the person who changed the password for Riel was Ricotta. Only her could enter the house. But now that I thought about it, Shizuku was a more likely suspect. If using cracking then beside stealing password, she could also steal those poems inside my PC.

But stealing a physical object like account certificate was still illogical.

She was still in stupor. Furthermore, based on her still blushed face then it looked like she was still drunk.

“She doesn’t look cool at all...”

Anyway let’s put aside the matter with Hugues and take care of her first. I went into the kitchen to find something cold to put on her head. But there was

not even a single ice cube inside the cooler. The fridge was also empty, no sign that showed that the kitchen was ever used.

How the heck has she been living?

Besides that, there was something else that I was worrying about. Even though she looked like she was at a student age, but I did not see anything resembling school uniform or textbook inside the house.

“M..mm.....”

Suddenly, an erotic moan sounded from inside the house startled me. That was a sleep talk from Shizuku. *Don't moan like that! That's dangerous.*

Thinking that I could make a towel cold by using tap water, I existed the kitchen and opened the closet.

“Uh.....”

When I just opened the door, the image of those clothes that were hanging appeared in front of my eyes. A scent belonged to a girl that I had never smelled before rushed outside, I was nearly overwhelmed.

“Hurry looking for a towel...towel...”

Focusing on looking for the towel, I opened the top drawer. And then, I discovered a piece of cloth with the right length. I exclaimed ‘There it is!’ and picked it up.

“What is this?”

'The shape of this piece of cloth look strange. What is this used for?', I thought so. I felt the shape of this looked like something that existed in my mind. To thin strings were attached with two tops—a bra.

“Eh!?”

This was the first time I touch it! Shocked, I subconsciously threw it to the side. *Furthermore, isn't that a sport bra?*

“Eii! Indecent! So indecent!”

I quit looking from the top drawer and moved down to a lower one. When I opened it, I saw the inside was separated into many sections, each section was

filled with a large amount of clothes with different color. *Are they Kojareta cookies? Or almond cookies?* I asked myself while looking at them.

I tried to pick up one that had blue and white strips and opened it up.

“Th-this is.....”

Right at that moment, a moving sound appeared from my back. I turned around with a bad feeling. Lying on the bed, Shizuku’s eyes were opened and looked toward this direction.

“G.....good morning.”

I hurried to give a greeting like that but Shizuku was only looking at the object in my hand. Yes, a promising development...

“Ah...uh...this...uh...haha.”

Because I was in the condition of pulling open a *shinmapan* with two hands so I didn’t know what to do beside smile stupidly. *No matter how I explain this, it will not work.*

TN: A combination of Shinmashima (strips) + pantsu.

Still with a blank face, Shizuku grabbed the board next to her, wrote on it causing a screech screech sound to appear everywhere in the room. When that sound stopped, she turned that board toward me.

[I will call the police.]

“Wait!!”

This was a situation that I had heard about a lot but I couldn’t imagine it happened with me.

Her face right now was red no different from when she was sleeping.

“Let me explain.”

[Go ahead.]

“Ah uh..... because I saw your condition was bad, I wanted to look for a towel to cool you down... and then... just like you saw.”

[Is that your favorite pattern?]

“Ah uh... if asking about my favorite then I think so.....but wait, what was that?”

I couldn't recognize that she was talking about the thing that was still in my hand.

I hurriedly threw away that shimapán.

[You have to fold it back properly?]

“You think I still have the mind to fold it!?”

Anyway, I couldn't get them in my sight, but because I threw them on the floor so I could only turn my back toward that panty.

“Then...h-how are you feeling?”

I asked Shizuku with an unnatural voice.

[No problem.]

“Th-then that's good.”

But, the conversation stopped there. I didn't know what more to say. Besides the sound of the cooling fan of those PC inside the room, a strange silence descended on the area.

Staying in a small room with a girl and only two people. The “only 2 people” aspect was emphasized by the bizarre quiet. While I didn't know what to say, I suddenly remembered the matter in the kitchen just now.

“Hey, there is nothing inside the fridge, what do you do for meal time?”

[RPG Coffee.]

“Don't tell me that is for all 3 meals.”

[Net Order.]

“Ah, I remembered there is a delivery service recently.”

If paid attention then you could see pizza boxes got stacked like a tower in a corner. I was quite impress of how it could make a column like that. In a working PC screen was also showing a delivery webpage.

[If I have the internet, you can do anything.]

She raised the board as if she was proud of it.

“Isn’t it unhealthy eating like that? You don’t have anyone to cook for you?”

[I am living alone.]

“Ok ok. Your implied meaning was that you can’t cook.”

[Officially aborted kitchen safety policy.]

“Who said that I will cook! Furthermore, there are no ingredients!”

[Tsk—]

“Don’t click your tongue with words. But, change subject, which school are you going to?”

There was no answer.

“Look like you can’t think of which place. Are you...”

[Enemy Excluder.]

“Sounds cool, but that is only inside your imagination!”

[Home Guard.]

“So basically.....you are a *hikikomori* right!?”

TN: a shut in.

[Uh, so what if I am a hikikomori, what you gonna do?]

“That sounds like a dare.”

Even if she is a hikikomori or anything else, I don’t want to continue to investigate this matter. Because everyone has their own circumstance. Besides, I am no different from her.

Even though I still came to school but my soul was never inside the class, the place it existed was in ZX. Only there did I feel the most comfortable. If possible, I wanted to live a life escaping inside the net.

I suddenly looked at the clock hanging on the wall. Right now it was still not quite late but it was not an appropriate time to be in someone else’s house. Therefore I needed to go home. Having completed my mission of delivering Shizuku home, I didn’t have any other reason to lingering around any further.

[Stay?]

“Ha-hahhh!? S-stay!? Don’t joke like that!”

[Then, go in the bathroom?]

“Why do I have to do that!? I can’t go in there!”

[Then I will go in.]

“But don’t go in now, ok!?”

[Only doing that that I have a chance to make you stay.]

“Why does this return to that matter!”

Because it looked like she was looking for ways to stop me so I hurriedly walked straight toward the door.

“Then, I will go back now.”

Finished wearing my shoes, I said so when I put my hand on the door knob. And then there was someone pulling on my shirt from behind. Even if I said ‘someone’ but beside her, there was no one else here.

“What is it now?”

I turned around while my limbs were shaking. Then the shiny eyes of Shizuku looked at me. Because the board was still on the bed so I didn’t understand what was she trying to say. From what I could read from her emotion, she didn’t want me to return.

“What is this, suddenly...”

Even though I asked again but there was no answer. Right when I thought I saw her body shaking, her weight had lied on my chest.

“H-hey!?”

What situation is this?

I restrained my subconscious action. This was a bad situation to me. Deep inside my bones began to heat up. But... she had not move like she was sleeping.

“Mm??”

When looking at her face, I saw some strange expression. Looked like she was still not completely sober.

“What was that... gave me a scare.....”

I supported her to lie on the bed while enduring not losing consciousness. And this time I had found the towel to cool her down.

“Fuu.....look like it is ok now, but not yet.....”

I talked to myself next to the bed. And then—

I fainted right when I was about to continue my care. When I realized, the sun was starting to come up.

◆Online◆

The next day. Tonight, still standing on the ground in the world of ZX, I moved toward the guild house like usual.

When I opened the wooden door, I only saw Shizuku inside. She was supporting her chin with one arm while sitting on a chair, using a finger to poke Sauma who was standing on the table. Looked like the other members were not log in yet.

When she saw me, she said:

“Hello, criminal-kun.”

“You want to fight!?”

“Then, sexual criminal-kun?”

“That is even worse! But, that is enough!!”

“Then, shimapan collector.”

“Although it is a little better but still not ok! But, I am not collecting them!!”

“There is no other way, let’s call you *beep* then.”

Too tooroo, I have a nickname. Congratulation! Thank you!.....Noooo.

“By the way, I only have that one shimapan.”

“I don’t want to hear about it!”

“And I follow the sport bra faction.”

“I told you I don’t want to hear about it!!”

Looked like she decided to wear them not because of her pitiful chest but because of her principle.

“I can give Knight-sama one?”

“I-I don’t need it!!”

“Embarrass? Just treat it at a thank you for carrying me home.”

“A thank you gift?”

“Right, because you have taken care of me. Only doing that would I not feel in debt to you anymore.”

“I-if that is the case...”

“I have send a report to the GM.”

“Ehh!?”

I am standing on the edge of getting my account locked. But isn’t that better than getting accused to the police in the real world?

“You don’t have to be so confuse like that? Didn’t we progress our relationship to a level where we say good morning to each other?”

“Hey!? Stop saying those easily misunderstand things!”

I looked around to see if there was anyone listening. Even though this was our guild house but I couldn’t stop worrying.....

“Why? That is the truth?”

“No, even so... but that isn’t it!”

“Furthermore, we even said good morning to each other when you were buried in my underwear.”

“When did I got bury! Enough.....please forgive me? I have explained already? That was an accident.”

“I am not mad. Only interested.”

“That is even worse!”

Tired! Talking with this girl is so tiresome!

“But hey, we have talked about this once back then already?”

“Did we?”

“If you are so quick to forget then just hurry up and eat *Ankipan!*”

TN: a bread that was one of Doraemon’s gadget that helped people remember.

“Where can I find a gadget of a robot cat coming from the future? That is also an evidence of the difference between 2D and 3D. By the way, that is a gadget that helped remember information from a textbook, in this case—“

“I know that you still remember.”

“Maa, that is not important.”

“Why not? If you remember then please hurry up and understand!”

In contrast with me who was pulling my hairs out. Suama-chan was moving her tail on the table. So cute (“ —▽— ”) If someone said that pet looks like their owner then they were lying.

I snorted and turned my eyes back toward Shizuku. Then, she looked at me with an unnatural pair of shiny eyes.

“Fufun.”

Even though still looked arrogance while lifting her chin with one hand but as if there was something hidden behind her shiny eyes.....Anyway, even though I said this many time but the difference between ON Shizuku and OFF Shizuku was too far. I thought both would look cute if only they stay quiet.

Chapter 6: Not Good, Mashumaro is Covered in a Pink Atmosphere

◇Online◇

The evening of next day, when I logged in like usual, there was only Mashu in the guild house.

“Ah~ Knight-sama~”

“Huh? Where are other people?”

“You see, they have not logged in yet today~”

“.....is that so?”

Subconsciously, I looked around for the figure of Shizuku a little anxiety. Truly I didn't know what to say about this.

When I was sure that there was no one else, I heaved a sigh of relief.

“Ummm...”

Mashu started to talk nervously.

“Are you free.....right now~?”

“Eh?”

“N-no, it's fine if you are not free. It's just that, if you have a little free time then.....um...how about with me.....ah, n-never mind, surely you are not free.....”

For some reason, Mashu started to get puzzling.

Free time? I am free right now. In this game, there was not much to do when reached level 99. Maybe level up utility skills.

Furthermore, getting ask with an upturn-eyes like that, I would make time even if I were not free.

“In the contrary, I am very free right now, what's up?”

“R-really~?”

Mashu’s face brightened up.

“If that is the case, can you help with something~?”

“Help you? Of course, I will try my best.”

“Ah, thank you very much~”

While saying so, Mashu’s behavior looked like it got covered by a cheerful mood.

“Then, what would you need my help with?”

“It’s like this, I want to ask you for help for a quest that rewards a unique item for my occupation~ Even though it is not a difficult quest but I would feel much better if there are 2 people in the party~”

“Leave it to me. Let’s go.”

“Yes!”

Mashu and I left the guild house together. In particular we did not have to prepare anything, I only needed to follow behind this girl who wore a one-piece skirt.

“Where is that place?”

“Inside the town of Firmus~”

“That near?”

That was a place with a pretty tall castle with the kingdom’s flag flying on top.

The town sat right outside the castle. We walked along the commercial street, where there were many kinds of stores such as the blacksmith shop, equipment store, etc.... Many people were walking on the stone-brick street, looking really busy. I was still walking behind Mashu, eyes staring at her provoking figure.

Thinking back to the offline meeting, she also had this kind of hair style. From there I thought about her age. Although I heard she was just a housewife in real life but she did not look much different from us.

Feeling a little interesting, I walked faster to be next to her.

“Hey, how old are you Mashu?”

My impolite question was so direct that she stared at me in surprise.

“Your question is quite direct~”

“Ah no, because... although you said you are a housewife but you look about the same age as me, therefore...”

“Ufufu, because that is so~”

“Eh?”

“I am 16 years old.”

“The same age as me!?”

Then the mystery is solved.

“But, you are already married at such a young age?”

“Only on formality~”

“Formality?”

What does that mean?

“Yes~ My husband actually is..... a person who has no interest in woman~”

“No way.....is he “that” kind of person.....?”

“Um, I am about to say that~”

Uho!

(TN: ウホッ! (Uho!) – often spoken word by Masaki Michishita in “Kuso Miso Technique”. Full line: “ウホッ! いい男...” (Uho! ii toko...) => “Woah! Hot guy...)

(P/s: DON’T google search it)

“This is quite complicate.....”

“Is that so~? Ehehe.”

She was laughing while talking, I did not know what to show on my face. But when her smile just stopped, the feeling on her face was as if it was covered by a gloom.

“Ah, we are here!”

Stopping suddenly, Mashu pointed at a building that had a smiling face.

That was the inn of the town. A 2-stories building that was built with stones. Inside had a few NPCs for quest.

Mashu stepped inside the inn, moved toward an old man with beard in a corner.

“Is this the person~ Let’s talk with her~ Then the quest will begin~”

Mashu told me so, who was still standing on the street right now.

After listened to the story, we moved to the last room on the second floor as the NPC instructed. That was a simple room with a bed inside, something was strange.

Because that was a double bed! With two pillows!

“Uh...then what do we have to do.....?”

As she heard my question, I felt Mashu’s face began to heat up.

“Umm... this quest’s name was [The Wedding Night], according to the quest’s detail, ‘The quest will be completed after you use this room with a male after a period of time’ but.....looks like it is not somewhat ok...”

“Who the heck thought of a quest like this!? But hey, how can we meet this requirement.....?”

“When the girl uses this item [Proof of Manhood] then the quest will begin.”

Mashu said so while showing the furry item in her hand. Then, she gently put them on her lips and closed her eyes.

“Thank you for preparing this wonderful room for me tonight. I am very happy.”

“Hah?”



Her voice suddenly changed into that of a man, making me thought that I was in Takarazuka.

(TN: Takarazuka Revue)

But hey, when did I invite her!? Wait a sec, that way of talking? This arrogance feeling...like who? That's right, it's 'him'. Like that Hugues! But, is there a chance that she is Knight-sama?

“S-sorry! I was a little excited...”

After removing the mustache, he voiced turned back to normal, her face blushed as if she was ashamed with what she had just done.

“B-but I apologized. I truly did not mean to do that.....”

“Ah, no problem, you don't have to apologize anymore.....”

She appeared sorry and apologized in a hurry.

Anyway, I cannot log out before finishing this quest. If that is the case then...

Followed my own bright idea, I sat on the edge of the bed. Mashu immediately became embarrassed when she saw it.

“Ah...um.....then...w-we will be staying together?”

“Well I don't have any problem.....look like it...”

Mashu showed a smile. Then repeated the same sentence many time.

“Thank you very much! Thank you very much!”

“S-stop doing that. Blame me for agreeing to help you in the beginning. No one could have thought this will happen, right? That is the truth.”

“That's not what I mean! Because Knight-sama is a good person! Knight-sama is kind!.....a!”

“Basically, from now to finish, we only need to sit like this?”

I hit *psstpsst* to a spot next to me.

“Y-yes.....”

Then she quietly sat down on the bed. The sound *psst* appeared and the bed got pushed down. Then, shoulder touched shoulder.....”

I got surprised and looked at my side. It was fine to just sit down, but I did not think she would sit this close. When I turned around, my and Mashu's noses

touched each other.

““Ah.....””

By instinct, we both blushed. But for some reason we kept looking at each other without moving. It was a while before I could escape.

“Ah...um...”

While I still didn't know what to say, looked like she wanted to say something.

“T-thank you.”

“H-huh?”

I let out a questioning sound.

“I...always stay home alone.....ZX is the only place I can be free.....b-because here I always have Knight-sama to talk with.....only those have helped me a lot.....therefore I want to say thank you.....”

“Oh, so it is about that?”

“Furthermore, to me, Knigh-sama is...”

When she was about to say something important then...

A loud noise appeared, the door was opened with a strong force.

““!?””

Mashu and I were both surprised, hurriedly separated from each other. There was someone standing there, with a familiar face, it was Shizuku. Looked like she had logged in some time but I didn't notice.

When aggressively infiltrated the room, she didn't look toward this direction but continuously opened and closed all of the drawers in order to look for something.

“W-what are you doing.....?”

“Doing a solo quest. Don't mind me.”

“Um... usually we have to mind.”

But wait, can there be 2 quests happening at the same place?

While I was scratching my head, I asked Shizuku, who was tossing the entire room upside down.

“Then, what quest is that?”

“[The Missing Item of Jeff].”

Shizuku answered while not stopping her search.

“R-right now?”

Couldn’t believe my ears, I asked again.

The missing item of Jeff. That was a quest received from Jeff (NPC) – the equipment store owner, the quest’s detail was: because having loss the important marriage ring, he cannot get marriage and wants to look for it.

The completion requirement was to find that ring that had been dropped randomly in this town in a fixed amount of time. Because that was an easy quest to novices so the reward was very little.

When I started the game, I had also come to this equipment store man a few times to make some money. But this quest was only interested by new players with one-digit level, but now she decided to do it with great passion...

After destroying the entire room, Shizuku finally decided to quit looking.

“Because I thought this is an easy to make money quest that doesn’t have risks, why?”

“Uh because...that’s right. Even so, about this quest, even though the ring is dropped randomly but you must look at places that make more sense? I never heard of anyone finding it in a place like this!”

Shizuku smirked.

“Hmph, anything unexpected can happen.”

“Oi, this is just a game, a product that was pre-designed.”

“So what? Then can you guess whether *Asopasomaso* show that will be air today has *Azukian* or not?”

(TN: *Asopasomaso* – Name of a kid program that has many kinds of personified sweets.

Azukian – Red bean paste.)

“Hah?”

“You couldn’t have guess the content until you watch it, right? The imagination of elder Jam today can be *Shiroan*, or it can be *Uguisuan*.”

(TN: *Shiroan* – *White bean paste*.

Uguisuan – *Green bean paste*.)

“What with that strange example!”

“Then let’s have a clearer example. Chocolate that you were given in Valentine, ‘how to know if this is a homemade chocolate even though she bought chocolate at a store to melt it down and shaped it?’, although you guys have guessed like that but you couldn’t have known that that girl has to go all the way to South America and perform processes such as collecting cocoa at the harvesting site, fermenting, drying, separating the seeds, grinding the seeds? You couldn’t have known if only looking at the outside.”

“How could I have known! Besides, this example is not that easier to understand! I mean, I have never received chocolate from a girl! Of course I will like it even if it is not homemade! If it is *tirol-choco* then it would be even better! Do you know how it feels when you go to an all-boy school but still find chocolate under the table on Valentine? Even though it could have been from the homeroom teacher? Do you know the shame from only thinking about what it could have been for a moment? Do you know the sensitive of human to the stuffs that usually they would never buy at any price?.....uh, why do I feel sadder the more I talk.....”

“If you like, I can give you chocolate this year?”

“Eh.....”

I didn’t know what to say before the surprise sentence of Shizuku.

“Ah...ah...right, that’s right! Me too, me too! I will also give Knight-sama chocolate!”

Sitting next to me, Mashu also refused to lose, raised her hand to announce.

Suddenly I received the promise of “2 bars” of chocolate in a place like this.

“ah...uh...t-thank you.....”

Even though I was really excited when I was about to have my first experience but.....this was summer. It had to pass next year New Year to reach Valentine day. I was excited but...too long! *It is way too long!! Fuck you, Sun! I hate the summer's blue sky!*

While I was deep in my happiness(?), I suddenly remember the problem that was left unsolved just before.

“Although we were off-track but basically, you want to say that we cannot be sure if we don't check, right?”

“Huh...ah...uh, that's right.”

Listened to me asking, Shizuku answered unsurely.

“What about you two, what are you two doing here?”

Shizuku began to scrutinize we two. Furthermore, she was looking at the two pillows with suspicious eyes.

“Eh, ah uh, this.....”

Fuuuu..... when I didn't know what to say, another guess appeared. That was an old NPC with mustache that we received the quest from. Looked like the required time for this quest had past.

“L-look like this quest is completed.”

“L-look like it.”

When I told Mashu, she replied with a smile like an angel.

“T-then let's exit?”

“Yes.”

We left the room with a nervous feeling. At that time, a *thump* sound appeared from behind us. I as if saw Shizuku using her leg to kick the bed but I thought I was just imagined it. Um, that was surely it.

Our two returned to the first floor. For some reason but Shizuku, who was still doing her quest, was also following us.

When we just got in front of the old man with a mustache, he said:
“Look like you two had a fun night yesterday. This is a gift for staying at this inn.”

Finished saying that, he gave us the quest reward item.

<<[Mashumaro] has received [Short Sword of Light]>>

A NPC sound appeared from somewhere.....the item received had no relation to the content of this quest.

But, there is no problem? This is just a game.”

“Knight-sama, I have received the item~ Thank you very much~”

“Yes, well~ just give me a head up when you need my help for something.”

“Yes-♪”

Looking at her all smile while holding the item in her hands made me feel relax.

About Shizuku, she was staring at us with cold eyes.

xxx

[Title] Hello

[Sender] Hugues[kishisama666@motmail.co.jp]

[Receiver] Keita [wan_U-x-U@pocomo.co.jp]

[Hello, it's me. Look like you have gotten familiar with the Knight-sama avatar? But hey, I like only you. I don't want you to misunderstand.]

Chapter 7: Not Good, Strawberry Cheese is Hime's Favorite

◇Offline◇

Because I belonged to the “Go Home Club” so I quickly went back home when school had ended.

Near the road going home was a middle school for highclass ladies, and that caused a little bit of problem.

There was a private tennis court that belonged to that private school that was being built in a park separated from the school yard, because of that it had been difficult for me to walk next to it.

Because, that was a place only surrounded by a wired fence so I could see everything inside. Unless I ignored it, there was no way for me to walk past that place.....

If I were to accidentally see a visually provoking scene then my weird condition would appear again. Even so there was no other way to go around. So hard...

Because of that so whenever I came to this section of the road, I ran past it as fast as I could.

Today was the same, when the bike arrived near that section of the road, I switched to ready mode. I sped up when those bright white uniforms reflected in the corner of my eyes. Even though I heard their voices but I ignored them.

When I stepped on the pedals stronger to give up everything then...

Sound of metal breaking, the force that I felt from the pedal suddenly disappeared.

“Oi!?”

A feeling liked I had slipped, my body lost balanced. I quickly pulled the break, it was lucky that the bike was still standing. To check what had just happened, I

parked the bike. When I sat down to check, I discovered that the chain was broken. Even worse that it was heavily damaged.

“Ay.....so unlucky.”

Look like I needed to replace the chain. The cost must be really expensive..... While I was thinking with my head down, I suddenly realized. This bike was parking right in front of the fence. Because there was no cover so the tennis courts were completely exposed in front of my eyes.

Like I said before, I initially was just checking the bike. I was not a suspicious person.

Right now, in front of me was a line of legs belonged to the members of the tennis club. ‘With that amount of legs, I wonder how many people are there?’ I was curious about the number of people in front of me. Next to that line of students, I heard a voice as if it belonged to a teacher. This looked like it was a meeting regarding the content of the training. Furthermore, it sounded like it was about to be finished.

“.....and that’s it. That’s the conclusion of this meeting, then you guys should separate into pairs and practice. Remember to check the form of each other.”

“Hai!”

A uniformed voice resounded the entire court yard.

Pairs of leg separated from each other. Afterward, they paired up like the teacher had told and began to practice. Even though the court yard was pretty big, it was not large enough for all the members. Therefore, some pairs were forced to wait to their turns.

In that group, I saw a person who was standing alone.

Right after the teacher said “Hey, pair up”, innumerable sentences such as “****-chan, let’s practice together?” and the answers “Of course, we are a pair!” resounded everywhere. Because everyone had a partner so she had been left out.

She quietly leaned back toward the fence, making a sad expression and

playing with a ball in her hand.

“That girl.....is it she...?”

I suddenly recognized that lonely girl. Even though it was quite far away so I could not have seen clearly but I could never mistake that blonde hair. That definitely was Hime.

She really is a highclass lady. But why is her avatar so malicious? And looks like her friendlist in real life is also empty. Maa~ when Kyouya was absent during those days with PE class, I also fell into a similar position. Therefore, I could truly understand how she was feeling.

Look like I need to get closer and talk with her? Thinking so, I began to push my bike.

At that moment, I heard a female student, as if she was a senior, say something in front of Hime.

“Hey, Kujiyou-san. If you are free then can you put away these balls? Because they are so damaged so we can no longer use them—.”

She was pointing at a basket full of damaged balls while talking. However, the face of Hime that was as if she was saying ‘Why do I have to do that?’ caused the senpai who was asking to be a little bit nervous. Even so, she docilely carried the basket and left the court yard without any complains.

The fence’s gate opened, from the inside, the figure wearing uniform of Hime stepped out. She was carrying a basket with the size of a shopping basket. Inside was filled with balls, with a struggling expression. Looked like it was very heavy.



“Yo!”

I raised my hand to greet her. Facing me, she showed a surprised face. But

then she was starting to make sense of the situation.

“W-w-w-w-w-w-w-why, are you hear!? Uh, hyaa!?”

Her emotion affected her hands, causing the balls to fell out of the basket. Hime gathered countless of those balls that were rolling on the sidewalk in despair. Because I helped her so we did not waste too much time picking them up.

“Here, last one.”

When I gave it to Hime, she expressed a complex emotion liked it was a mixture between ‘anger’ and ‘embarrassment’. And then I felt like she was looking at me.

Not just look, I could even hear muttering noises. Those were the sounds of the members of the tennis clubs. Looked like they had noticed due to the sound caused by the basket when it dropped.

“Who is that?”

“Is he her boyfriend?”

“Eh, of Kujiyou-san? No way.....”

“You mean the-boyfriend-of-Kujiyou-san?”

“But, his face looks pretty normal.”

What’s wrong with normal? But wait, what are you saying!?

While I was feeling indignant, Hime started to get embarrassed in front of me.

“W-what do we do now? We are getting misunderstand. They thing you are my...um...b...b-b-b-b-b”

“B?”

“B-boyfriend. Don’t make me say it, so embarrassing!”

“Ah, is that so? Then we only need to explain ourselves.”

I yelled toward the people on the other side of the fence.

“Um... I am only her GuillMem—!”

Then, the muttering continued.

“GuilMem? What is that.”

“So he really isn’t her boyfriend. Kujiyou-san can still keep her nickname.”

“But, what is GuilMem?”

After that sentence, Hime absentmindedly walked away for some reasons. Then, I felt a really strong force applied on my collar. If I paid attention, I could see that Hime was looking at me with a furious look.

“W-walk with me for a moment! Hurry up!!”

“Eh? Oiiii.....”

Hime used pure strength to pulled me on the sidewalk. As we arrived at a place that covered from the tennis courts, Hime put down the basket and let out a sigh as if she had just finished some laborious task. Looked as if she had never sigh like this in front of the tennis courts.

“A-are you stupid?”

“Huh?”

“Don’t yell like that!”

“Because you are afraid of getting misunderstand so.....ah, so that’s it, because normal people don’t know that GuilMem = Guild Member, right? Then how should I explain it...?”

“Eh...a-about that matter...”

Hime muttering quietly, but immediately after,

“But first, why are you here? Are you being a stalker following me around?”

“In your dream!!”

“Uwa, then are you... a peeping tom?”

“No-no way!”

“Also wrong? Then a person who secretly takes obscene photo!?”

“Look like you are trying to make me into some kind of criminal! This is my everyday road to school.....recently my bike’s chain was broken so.....”

“Hah.....broken bike chain.....?”

Hime looked at my bike with a look full of suspicion.

“Really, you can also look, here! It is broken, right?”

It was so difficult to gain her trust.

“However, I can’t imagine I could meet Hime here. Are you good at tennis?”

“I am not good.”

“Eh.....then do you like it?”

“I don’t like it.”

“What?”

“I have only joined the club for three days. But looks like it doesn’t fit me. I... really suck at sport.”

“Then why didn’t you join other club?”

“Before I joined the tennis club, I have participated in the traditional tea club, before that was archery club, then before that was the music club. Every time I try to do something new, I feel like it doesn’t match me. Why is that...”

I think the problem lies in your personality.

“But, isn’t this good? Because you don’t have to constraint yourself anymore.”

“.....Eh?”

“You only need to do things that you feel making you happy.”

“Things that make me feel happy.....ah?”

Her response was a little bit weak. Was there some problem?

“Hey, is Hime’s real name Kujiyou?”

“Right, Kujiyou Kiri. It is a beautiful name, right?”

“Uh... it makes me feel highclass.”

“But just call me as Hime like usual is-fine.”

She proudly lifted her chest. But the “is fine” part had no emotional impact.

I asked myself while looking at her prideful face. And then, my eyes suddenly

moved toward her legs. Lying there was the ball basket.

“It is really heavy, right? If you want, let me help you?”

“Eh?”

I slapped *boof* at the back seat of the bike. With this, moving this small basket was a small matter.

Without waiting for Hime’s agreement, I lifted the basket on my backseat and began rolling the wheels.

“Ah, w-wait a second!”

“How?”

I didn’t say much, I just turned my head back to hear her reason.

“What’s wrong?”, when I opened my mouth to ask again then,

“Let’s me borrow it.”

She said with a blushed face.

“I will push it!”

“Eh, is that so? Then, I will support the basket.”

After saying so, I docilely gave her the bike’s handle. She used her other hand to hold the seat to make sure it was stable.

Immediately, the bike’s frame shook a little. A ball dropped down on the sidewalk.

“C-can you handle it?”

I asked while picking up the ball.

“I-I can manage.....”

But despite saying so, after the bike began to move slowly, it started to stagger, as if it was about to fall at any time.

“But look to me you are not fine.”

“Hah?”

She glared at me.

“.....never mind.”

“Well this is the first time I carry something this heavy.....”

“What did you just say?”

“N-nothing.”

Even though I thought that putting something this heavy in the back should make her unstable but was it to this degree? Or was it because she lacked exercise? But I myself lacked exercise. Anyway, I cannot describe this in a word. I would have been better if the bike was still able to ride, because right now the wheels cannot go straight.

“How come it can’t go straight? Is it broken somewhere!?”

Even though the chain was broken but the gears were still okay. Despite wanting to help her, I thought ‘Surely she would have complained’ while walking behind Hime, who was staggering left and right.

“Wait, hey? Aaa, w-where are you going!?”

She told that to the bike. But I on the other hand wanted to ask her the same question.

After that, overcome countless struggles, finally we had reached the school gate. She picked up the ball basket and returned the bike to me.

“Wait here for a little bit.”

Saying that, she lifted the heavy basket and staggering toward the school yard. Because she did not allow me to return so I only stood there. What did she want to do anyway?

As I waited for about ten minutes, Hime returned. At that time, she had changed her uniform. With a backpack on her back. Clearly that was a style of going home.

“Let’s go.”

“Going home? Then what about your club?”

“.....hah?”

“I have written a form to resign from the club and placed it on the teacher’s

desk. So there will be no problem, right?"

No problem.....ah? But I felt that she didn't want to listen to this anymore.....

"But hey, do you like to eat ice cream?"

I was suddenly asked.

"I somewhat like it, especially in hot days like this. But why are you asking me that?"

"Is that so?"

She did not answer my question, only turned around and moved toward some place.

Having not understand anything, I could only silently follow.

After walking for a while I spotted a store that looked like a doll's house. Because Hime was walking toward it so it surely was the destination.

In front of the shop had a sign [Ice Cream]. Standing in front of the counter, she ordered:

"Two orders of strawberry cheesecake flavor, with waffles."

After receiving two waffled ice creams from the seller, Hime immediately returned to the spot I was standing at.

"Here!"

She thrust one cone toward me.

"What is with this?"

"What do you mean? Didn't we just agree on it? Stop talking, hurry to try this. The ice creams at this store is super delicious."

"Hey, I will ask again to make sure, but why are you suddenly this nice?"

"No reason. It is the responsible of rich people to donate for the poor people, that's it."

"Then, thank you my lady!"

I received the ice cream as if I was receiving a huge treasure.

Wait, so this was her goal? Or was it something else?

More importantly, right after I tried to give it a lick then,
“So good!”

The taste of cheesecake perfectly mixed with strawberry, I felt like there was a rondo song being played on my tongue!

How come I didn’t know of this super delicious ice cream shop around here?
“What is this, it’s so good.”

“Really? But you can only have one cone for today. If you are a good boy then I will treat you again.”

“How come you are talking as if you are feeding a dog!?”

“I am not feeding a dog. I am training a dog.”

“Training a dog.....”

“W-what are you imagine? So disgusting...”

“No, I did not imagine anything? But hey, why are your face so red?”

“Hah!? W-what, there’s no way that is happening!?”

Hime denied with all her mind, looking really cute.

“A-anyway, can we sit down over there for a little bit?”

Still a little bit embarrassed, Hime pointed at a square next to the ice cream shop. Because there was no reason to reject so I followed her suggestion. The two of us sat down on a bench.

In front of us had a small fountain with a few trees around. It was a quite peaceful place. Sitting in a peaceful place like this, we did not do anything else besides eating our ice cream. Completely silence from start to finish.

What to do in this situation..... Because there was a beautiful girl sitting next to me, I did not know how to start a conversation. To me she had a perfect figure. Even better was her attractive blonde hair. There was no one who could be compared to her.

Ah, she looked this way!

“What are you looking at?”

“Ah no, I just thought that your hair is really beautiful.”

“Hah!? W-why so suddenly... you are just flattering me, right?”

“No, it’s true.”

“Eh.....r-really? But...I, on the other hand, don’t like it so much...”

“Why?”

“My Mom is English. So, my hair has this color. But I do not have any good impression with this hair. Other people have bright blonde hair. However, my hair has a tint of red...looks like a strawberry.”

“Hmm, but isn’t strawberry pretty cute? I thought this really fit you.”

I said so while looking at the strawberry cheesecake ice cream on my hand. She looked at me suspiciously. Feeling a little bit nervous.

“W-why are you suddenly saying things like that? A-are you thinking this is a date?”

“What? So it feels like this!?”

“S-stop saying it like that! Did you hear me, baka! And what is with that hopeful face!? You pervert bug!”

I got yelled at. And, what is a pervert bug?

Clearly to a guy who barely interacted with a girl like me, this was like a dream. But I had never dream of unrealistic stuffs like a date.

Because of that after I had heard she said so, my feeling got erupted again. Immediately after,

“Hey...”

She was talking while staring at her feet. Unlike before, she looked pretty calm.

“What do you think about Riel!?”

“.....eh?”

I was surprised, she mentioned someone’s name.

“What did you just say.....”

“C’mon, doesn’t she not show up in ZX nowadays? Don’t you think something must have happened?”

This was something I thought I would never heard of. Riel, the avatar that I played daily, was not logged in for a long while. But because I did not have the password so there was nothing I could do.

Furthermore, it was possible that I would never get back Riel.

“Umm...what if she just got busy in the real world?”

“You think so? But I have always paid attention, the log in time that was no difference from a waste of her made her feel like a person who was always free. Maybe she did not have any friend in the real world.”

I am sorry, but it’s true that I am a person with a lot of free time. But if talking about how much of a waste I am then the other members, including Hime, all have log in time longer than even me. What kind of people are they then? But about having friends...maa, maybe she is right.

“S-so that’s not true? Then maybe she just got sick? Did you think about that? Umm, definitely not yet.”

While I was looking for a reason, Hime spoke up.

“Anyway, I do not really care so much.”

“Then don’t ask!”

What the heck, I had to thought of up to twenty reasons in my head.

“Return to the question in the beginning.....what do you think about Riel?”

This again, while thinking so, I felt the face that was still staring at my feet began to heat up.

“Do you think...Riel was really cool?”

I had heard of an illogical phrase.

“Really cool?”

I subconsciously repeated. Using that phrase to praise a female player,

doesn't that feel a little weird?

Sitting next to me, she showed an abnormal smiling expression. Then started to talk embarrassingly.

"Right, like the time when I have not joined the guild for example. When I was collecting materials solo in the beginning forest, I met a notorious PK group."

"PK?"

PK. That was a system that allowed players to hunt and kill other players, available in almost all MMORPG. Of course, ZX was not an exception. There were some special groups of people who make money and item using that way. However, according to the rules, there was nothing wrong so it was useless to report to the GM. They enjoyed hunting for prey on that gray line.

"There were about 5 people at that time if I remember correctly? That situation was like I was the main heroine of some shounen manga who was being attacked by a group of ruffians."

She started calling herself as the main heroine...

"At that time, I said something like 'Release your dirty hands, you animals!' I think."

"Hey, that was not a line of a heroine!?"

Wouldn't that just make them angrier? I thought.

"And then, I began to heavily rebuke their leader such as 'Pitiful, a bunch of chickens who cannot do anything in the real world so they escaped into the game to show off, right? Can this be call a kamatte-chan group?' and so they got furious for some reason. Even though it was all fake but it felt pretty scary♪"

(TN: *kamatte-chan* means attention seeker.)

'felt pretty scary♪ my butt!! Who asked you to provoke them?

"At that time, I yelled out 'help me!'."

Finally say something proper for once? I thought.

"After I yelled for help, a girl appeared. As if she knew I was standing right there."

Ah no, at that time I was on my way returning to Firmus and was just passing by.....

“Showing up in a cool manner! Standing in front of the ruffians was a girl in a white skirt.”



It was true that they were behaving like ruffians at the time.

"Even though her level and occupation did not fit to battle with those ruffians

but without hesitation, she had used high class item to steal the initiative of the entire battle.”

Now that I thought about it, at that time I had used the item [Fire Flower’s Fruit]. It was similar to a bomb with the ability to attack multiple targets at the same time. With their levels at the time, one bomb would be able to kill them all. Back then, I had only carried with me one high class item for defense purpose. But then I thought it was an appropriate time to use it.

“At that time, they all ran away with tails between their legs. And so, I got saved without any problem, right?”

Clearly Hime was asking me, but why was that?

“Afterward, I usually talked with her. Seeing me still without joining a guild so she had invited me.....”

Her face while recalling back to those times looked pretty happy. I also remembered back to those days. Although those memories were nothing significant but those were happy memories. The guild was formed by Shizuku, then Hime joined, then I met Mashu and Ricotta, and then Hugues appeared last.

Talking till the evening, sometimes having disagreement, fight, sometimes ending up in failure but everyday were fun days—I remembered back to those days I spent along with the girls.

All were memories when I was still Riel. But right now, I was playing at Knight-sama. Although the avatar was not bad but the feeling was different.....

When I returned to reality, I realized Hime was looking at me from beside. And then—

“If there was not Riel..... surely I would be really lonely in ZX.....”

“.....eh?”

What’s this? Why was she looking at me when saying that? Furthermore, Hime’s eyes right now looked different from normal, they were wet.

Why was she talking about Riel’s matter with me? Why?

Was it.....Hime knew I was Riel!? If that was true then she really appeared by

herself. The person who knew me = Riel was only one.

That's right— it was Hugues.

This thought began to change in to my belief.

"Hey Hime....."

"A-----, a-----"

"—!?"

That scared the crap out of me, Hime suddenly yelled out loud. Her voice covered up my voice.

"W-what are you doing?"

"Aa, it has gotten so late? Not good."

She hurriedly jumped up while doing the action of looking at her wristwatch.

"But hey, you don't have a wristwatch!"

"If I don't hurry up to go home, my dad will get mad. Anyway, see you later on ZX."

When I took out my phone to clarify, I saw right now was 4 PM. This time was nothing, the sun hadn't even set yet. But she had already stood up and ran away with the speed of Idaten.

(TN: Reference to the manga series Idaten Jump.)

Her reaction was too suspicious.

Alone sitting on the bench, after thinking about it for a moment, I began to push my bike home.

◆Online◆

I had decided.

I had thought this through. Hime's behavior at that time. It was clearly dark, not just suspicious. If she logged in today then I would clarify this matter. But even though I said so.....

"So late."

Next to me, Shizuku was displaying that irritable attitude. Standing near her, Mashu and Ricotta were also of similar mood.

We were standing in front of the road leading to the Kingdom's Square. Everyone decided to go to [Happy City] that was held today. But even now Hime still had not shown up. We were waiting endlessly.

"I am about to reach the limit of my patience..."

"Now now, let's try to wait a little bit more."

I said so to calm down Shizuku's irritation. Immediately after, a blue light effect appeared.

<<[Shirousahime] has logged in.>>

When that blue light had disappeared, a girl with blonde hair appeared.

"Ara? Isn't today Happy City day? What are you guys doing here?"

Hime looked at the member with curious eyes.

"Waiting for this lonely rabbit, what else?"

Shizuku said so while stepping ahead.

"If so then thank you. But Shizuku, even you waited for me?"

"I only afraid that after you has logged in, you would say something like 'There's no one! I will die in loneliness! That is the fate of a rabbit!' while covering in tears and snots. If you cry like that in the middle of the town, the guild's reputation will be loss."

"Hah!? I would-never act like that. Furthermore, I can barely accept tear but why are there also snots!?"

"Oya? I saw someone used that special ability when she was discovered by security camera."

"But that person was not me."

The usual argument had begun again. If I didn't stop them then it might continue till tomorrow.

Because I experienced it once so I knew it really well. Therefore, I picked an

appropriate time and jumped in to interrupt them.

“Enough enough, enough—h.”

The two mad horses looked at me with cold gazes. But for some reasons those two stopped arguing with each other. We stepped foot into the Kingdom’s Square.

It was very busy inside the square. Full of people, people, and people. This would cause so much lag. Even though I really wanted to talk to Hime but it looked like I couldn’t do that in this crammed atmosphere.

Happy City. That was a fair that was held in the Kingdom’s Square so that players could sell items that they had collected. Even though private stores were familiar sights on the side of the street but this was an event organized by the game’s producing company. While the fair was happening, there would be many events such as parade, lotto for special item, meeting special NPC, or the chance to meet special creatures that we couldn’t normally see. Because of that everyone was waiting for this day. This would become a fair of a giant proportion. There were a lot of people went out shopping on this day with the goal of buying item cheaper than usual.

In the line of people walking around, we were walking around to visit other players opening their shops. Cheap armors and swords, countless luxurious items, but our group did not stop at any of those shops.

“A— that looks delicious nya~”

Ricotta pointed at a colorful stick of candy. Those sticks of candy in red, yellow, blue, green were arranged in a line. They were made from [Gorin] harvested in a beginning forest. Gorin candy mixed with [Boruboru’s nectar], drop item of a vegetation monster named Boruboru. We could create new item if your Cooking skill reached level 5. Even though they were not rare but the beautiful way they were arranged caused me to feel somewhat happy when I recalled of the Summer Festival in the real world.

“If you like it that much then let me buy you one!”

“Wa—inya!”

Feeling like I got cat-glared from Rio so I was inclined to take out my wallet to

buy candies for her. There was no way I would do this in real life. Ah no, there was some other instances previously, I think? But you don't have to add 'nya' after 'wa—i', I thought.

But how can Ricotta have logged in? Was there a PC in her room? I asked myself those issues while opening the trading window.

"Please give me one stick."

"Yes, one stick!"

"Ah, uncle, please one more stick."

"Hee, ok, one more stick!"

Standing next to me, Hime requested.

"Uh hey..."

"What? Is this not good? Just treat this as a return for the ice cream in real life."

"""What?"""

The other members yelled out surprisingly in response to Hime's words.

"H-hime-chan..... besides the offline meeting, you guys have met other times in real life~?"

Mashu clung onto Hime with eyes filled with tear.

"Because Knight-sama's school and my school are close to each other."

Hime said so with an arrogant tone. But at that time, Shizuku's shoulder began to shake. Then she started laughing weirdly.

"Fufufufu, to be honest after that day, I had also met Knight-sama in real life."

"""What?"""

Three surprise sounds again appeared.

"Wh-when?? W-where did you meet!?"

Hime could not cover her shock. On the other hand, Shizuku was displaying a mischievous attitude.

“Who know, where was it—?”

“W-what, hurry up and say it clearly!”

“Maa~ the only thing I can say is that Knight-sama had definitely hugged my underwear in his arms.”

“““Hahh!?”””

“Hey!? Don’t slander me! When did I hug it? I only held it in my hand!”

“Held it in your hand?”

Hime looked at me with whitened eyes.

“No no no, that was not it!”

Before I could find a reason to deny, Shizuku had again added fuel into the fire.

“By the way, we had stayed together at my house until the next morning.”

“The f...!? Why did you say that matter!?”

“Uu... Knight-sama, is that true?”

Mashu and Hime were staring at me intensely.

At that time, Ricotta’s cat ears twitched when she was jumping up and down.

“If so then Ricotta is living with Knight-samanya.”

“Hey!? Stop saying things that can be easily misunderstand!”

“Are you...”

Hime’s eyes changed into disgust.

“No, that’s not it!”

What the heck, this chain of events? I would really cry.

“Everyone is so unfair.... playing together at places that I don’t know about.”

Mashu still had not stop her crying face.

But today she was looking somewhat different from usual. Biting her lips to display her displeasure, she announced officially.

“If that is the case then I suggest we have our second offline meeting!”

Even though everyone all had surprised faces but immediately after...

“That sounds good.”

“Isn’t that too good?”

“Very good nya~”

Those agreement voices of everyone appeared. And of course, they had not care about my opinion from the beginning. Therefore, at this place, the group had decided to hold the second offline meeting.

[Title] (Blank)

[Sender] Hugues[kishisama666@motmail.co.jp]

[Receiver] Keita [wan_U-x-U@pocomo.co.jp]

[Look like there were a lot of thing happened at places that I didn’t know about.

I am not quite pleased to this.

But anyway, I am looking forward to the incoming offline meeting.]

Chapter 8: Not Good, the Friendlist is Empty

◇Offline◇

After the surprise announcement of Mashu, everyone decided to hold the second offline meeting. And that day had come.

In the beginning, I thought the location was the previous one at Ikebukuro..... but I was wrong. For some reasons, my house located nearest to the train station. Because of that, everyone decided that 'it's best if everyone just come to the location of Knight-sama!'. *Why does it turn out like this?*

Inside of the train station, it was a place that had a mixture theme of city and tradition.

"Hmm, so this is the town that Knight-sama is living? It's nearer than I thought."

Hime looked at the scenery around. She was wearing a white one-piece skirt and a big sun hat, totally looked like a highclass lady arriving at a resort! That was my thought. While still looking around, she said:

"Then, where is your house, Knight-sama?"

"Why are you suddenly asking that!?"

"To come, why else?"

"No thanks!"

"Why?"

〔Because he is afraid of you discover stuffs that would bring him troubles.〕

Wearing the Gorochu outfit, Shizuku raised her board.

"What are those stuffs?"

〔Porn DVD〕

"What...!?"

Hime placed two hands on her blushed cheeks.

“What the heck are you saying!? There’s no way that would happen! No way!”

“Ricotta knows where is the hiding place nya~”

“W.....what!?”

Wearing a short skirt, Ricotta said happily while swaying around.

“Because Ricotta is the person who are living with Knigh-sama nya.”

“T-then you really are..... now that you remind me, today she shows up along with you?”

Hime shook.

“I told you that is not it! It is because Ricotta is my sister.”

“!?”

After my reply, Hime looked at me with eyes as if she had just discovered a rotting bloated corpse.

“Are you.....forcing her calling yourself onii-chan?”

“Uh no.....but that is the normal way of calling.”

“Anyway.....because you see her is cute so you force her to become your sister against her will.....”

“Please stop misunderstand me!? She is really my sister!”

“What to do.....even though I am the same age as Knight-sama but.....I-I also wanted to form some kind of relation such as twin sister.....”

Hime was muttering some weird things.

“I-if so, I-I also want to become a sister~”

Wearing a short sleeves shirt, Mashu said.

“Wait a bit!? Mashu, what did you just say!?”

『Onii-chan!』

“Stop!”

Because suddenly appeared three younger sisters so the real younger sister

looked like she could not pretend to ignore this.

“This matter is so funny nya.....then Ricotta will change from step-sister to real sister at this moment nya.”

No, you are my real younger sister from the beginning!

“Then there are four younger sisters~”

When Mashu said so, Hime immediately pointed her finger at Ricotta.

“If so then I am the oldest sister. Hey, you younger sister. Hurry up and show me the direction to Knight-sama’s house, ah no, onii-chan!”

“Understood nya! This way nya!”

For some reason, Ricotta docilely obeyed and began to head home. Other members followed behind in a line.

“Eh, wait a bit!”

Despite me calling, they refused to stop. Furthermore, they walked even faster.

Tsk, it was not that I had a problem with them coming to my house. It was just that there were some problems regarding the road that led there. In order to go to my house, you needed to pass by the shopping street. But the coffee shop that I worked part time at was located there. Even though I was on an excused break but if Master caught me hanging out with four girls then I would not know how to face her the next time I meet her. I just wanted to avoid that. Because she was a person who liked gossiping.

And so, the group was about to arrive at the troublesome coffee shop. Only ten meters from ‘RPG Coffee’. I hurriedly looked around to see if there was anything that would catch their attentions.

However, the shopping street here looked pretty old. There was nothing that would attract the attention of a young girl. In view were only simple stores. From old books to old DVD, toys, and game that were placed on display but the store looked like those were left-over from the previous century. In front of the store, there was a shelf. On it were old video game cartridges that were on sale. *Maybe I can find some surprises mixed in this such as.....this!*

With eyes shining, I picked up a cartridge from the shelf.

“A— isn’t this the masterpiece Dragon Quest III? Although I has not finished playing the remake version but when I found ‘that item’, it is as if I am on fire~ (mechanic voice).”

“Hmm? What’s wrong, onii-chan?”

“What’s so moe, onii-chan?”

“Is there something nya, onii-chan?”

『I just heard onii-chan said something moe.』

(TN: Keita mentioned moe (燃え), as in when a character is on fire (motivated), but everyone else thought he was saying moe (萌え), meaning cute.)

“N-no..... let’s see, it was just saying that when I found ‘dangerous bikini’, I was as if on fire.....but hey, there is nothing wrong, let’s stop talking about it..... there’s no benefit to it.”

(TN: dangerous bikini – Abunai mizugi (あぶない水着))

“Well it seems pretty interesting but if Knight-sama said so then let’s stop~”

Mashu said so unwillingly. Immediately after, Ricotta spoke up:

“Knight-sama thinks ‘dangerous bikini’ is moe nya~”

“Eh? Ah...uh...m-maybe.”

When I saw that this maybe fit to distract their attentions, I muddleheaded replied. But for some reasons I discovered the girls muttering something such as ‘bikini...’, ‘bikini ah...’ with a dignified expression.

Taking advantage of this, I must prepare for the second match. Because this matter cannot be dragged on for long. At that time, my eyes looked toward the direction of a multi-tenant building opposite with the electronic store. When I looked at the upper floors, I discovered a karaoke signboard.

“Hey, why don’t we go to a karaoke?”

When I suggested so then,

“Why suddenly want to go to a karaoke?”

Hime asked. *Well that also makes sense. There are not many people go karaoke during the day like that. Normally so. During the day people would go play like crazy, not enough, they would keep going at night. But then beside karaoke, where else can we go?* When I suddenly realized it, I thought this way was not good. But,

“Maa, if Knight-sama wanted to then I have no reason to refuse?”

“I also agreed~”

“Ricotta will sing ‘this’ song, ‘that’ song, and ‘that’ other song nya~”

“Then, it is decided!”

Surprisingly I succeeded. I pushed the button to call down the elevator.

After a while, the elevator arrived. When everyone stepped in the elevator, I discovered Shizuku looked a little weird. Standing before the door, she had her head down. Because of her hood, I could not see her expression but it reflected some sort of depressing mood.

“What’s wrong? Are you feeling sick?”

I asked worriedly. Then,

『That place has too much miasma.』

An answer like usual.

“Hai hai.”

When she received an answer, she immediately stepped into the elevator.

X X X

We arrived at the right floor. There was the karaoke store that I had decided on. There were singing voices emitted from every room, sounded like the store was still busy even during this time. We came to an empty room with a size appropriated for five people. When stepped inside, Hime began to say ‘this place cannot be said to be too clean’. While saying so, she had preset ten songs, as if this was some sort of Live Show for her.

“Beat and bass is still not enough.”

I reminded when the song was starring.

“But hey, while are there all songs from seiyuu idol?”

“What’s about it, you have a problem?”

“Ah no, I am not a fan of the seiyuus who sing the anime theme song so I don’t know all of the original songs.”

“But doesn’t you know all of the original of these songs?”

“Ah no, I.....”

These songs.....all of them are from my favorite seiyuuuuu! But hey, did she pick those songs because she knew I am a fan!? By the way, every seiyuu is treated as 2D citizen.

“Do you know my hobby?”

“Hah!? W-what are you saying? How can that have happened! No way that would happen.”

“Uh right, that’s right. How can you have known?”

“R-right! Then, doesn’t my voice must cuter than the person who sang this song?”

I wish I don’t have to say it! I wish I don’t have to say it! Because this was an important matter so I had repeated it twice.

“Hai hai, cute, very cute.”

I emotionlessly replied.

“B-baka! D-don’t say it like it is natural!”

Suddenly Hime’s motivation dissipated everywhere. Finally, she put down the microphone on the sofa. Afterward,

“Then, it’s my turn to sing~♪”

When all of the remaining songs got canceled. Mashu stood up while humming.

Picking up the microphone, she began to sing. The first song was the opening of Gungam SEEP, next was Gungan SEEP Destroy, afterward was Gungam QQ and Gungam Medley, then Home Tutor Typeman Hebborn, Namaridama, Prince

of Dodgeball Musical Edition; all were shounen series. One fujoshi remix. Although I was suspicious when I saw she bought a bunch of BL books but I couldn't believe she turned out to be the real thing.

(TN: guess the references :v)

“Haa haa.....Singing all of these makes my head a little crazy~”

Although I thought “dizzy” was a more appropriate word but whatever.
Because her head was crazy, Mashu put down the microphone.

“Ok nya, Ricotta will sing next nya.”

Waited all this time, Ricotta stood up while saying so.

I had never seen my sister sing anything yet. Had also never seen her hum. Because of that, I suddenly became a little interested. And the song began.

“Dottoutou~♪ dottoutou~♪ dettetettete~♪”

She began to sing the first verse.

“Guro♪ guro♪ guro♪ Now we disect~♪ The intestine spilled out ke—ro♪”

T...this...isn't the opening song of Geroro Gunso!? He was a mad scientist coming to destroy Earth from space. She likes Gororo even when she is still so young.....

(TN: Dororo Gunso)

She kept singing the opening song of Geroro Gunson all seven times. In total, she had sung eleven songs. The last song was the opening of Di Su Charat, a series where the main character was a girl assassin with cat ear coming from the plant De Su. An entire encore where the main character were all aliens.

(TN: De Su Charat (デ・ス・キャラット) – De Gi Charat (デ・ジ・キャラット))

She said she was an alien from planet Nyanya right? Is this because of that?

“A— so refreshing nya~”

Ricotta said so and dropped down the microphone. At that time, I subconsciously caught it.

Even though the only one who had not sang were Shizuku and I but.....she

was staring intensely at her childhood friend, the white board. Looked like she didn't want to sing. Because on the board was written:

『Pass.』

Now that I think about it, I have not yet find out, why she doesn't want to talk? Maa~ in this case, I need to sing then.

“What song should I sing...?”

I thought while looking at the selection tablet. However, I was not familiar with the current J-POP. I only knew anime songs. But like you have seen, everyone was as if just sang their favorites so I didn't have to worry about it too much.

When I had just decided to choose a simple song then...

“Knight-sama, let's sing a duet with Ricotta nya~”

Ricotta, who just finished singing, spoke up.

“Duet eh?? I don't know whether I know of any song...”

Although I was racking my brain to find one but Ricotta was faster. A song that was unknowingly preset began to play.

“Any song is fine as long as I get to sing a duet with you nya.”

“I-is that so?”

Although I feel like this is not good, but never mind. Furthermore fortunately, this is the melody of an anime song that I know about.

However, when I began to sing, some unknown emotion began to emerge inside of me. From beginning to end, I sang in enthusiasm.

It has been a long time...ah no, maybe this is the first time that I can hang out with my sister like this. Five songs unknowingly had passed.

“A— my throat is dry.....”

“S-so fun nya~ One more song...”

“More!?”

Despite me being surprise, Ricotta extended her hand to the selection tablet.

And so, I had to continue singing with Ricotta for three more songs. After finished, this time I had to sing together with Mashu, four more songs. I thought everything till here had ended but Hime then raised her hand...

Feeling like I began to fall into a bottomless abyss, I thought '*I will probably die right here!*'. I dropped the microphone and leaned back on the sofa. Although Hime blown up her cheeks in opposition, but she gave up after a while and began to sing alone.

Fuu...I have escaped death.

Heaving a deep sigh, I raised a cup of oolong tea to my mouth and began to enjoy.

Aaa~ so refreshing.

I drunk it all in one gulp. When my throat and body began to calm down, I suddenly realized there was something different in the room.

Uh? Where is Shizuku?

I still saw she was here when I began to sing the duet, but now she has disappeared somewhere. Or did she go to the restroom?

I felt a little worry so I secretly slipped out of the room.

I did not see Shizuku's figure at both the restroom or in the hallway. *Surely, she has not went home without telling me.....where did she go?* I decided to look inside the rooms along the hallway.

Because the door of every room was made out of glass so I could see clearly everything inside. Every room had a group of people singing merrily but Shizuku was not in there.

Ma, maybe she has returned to the room? I thought so while returning.

Suddenly a room floated into my view. Inside was a group of students about my age, singing karaoke happily. That group of 5-6 people expressed a thick atmosphere of a world that I could not exist in.

There was a girl with brown drill-hair in the group. And I suddenly recognized her.

That was...my classmate, Kudou Misaki. If I looked closely then the other girls were also the group of people often hanging around with Misaki-san. Then about those flamboyant boys, I felt like I had seen them from somewhere before. Maybe a group of students from another class in school. And then, for some reason but I suddenly discovered she was sitting inside along with them.

That was right, it was Shizuku.

“Why is this girl in there?”

However, there was something strange. Shizuku was being surrounded by that group, hand was holding a microphone... I meant, looked like she was holding. Her hood, the thing that was very difficult to take off of her head, was put down, exposing a head of black hair.

That was all I had seen. A girl was holding an object and waving it around in front of Shizuku. That was the familiar white board.

Feeling the atmosphere was unusual, I immediately opened the door.

Immediately, a voice from the inside appeared.

“Ayahane-san, too slow. What’s wrong? Hurry up and sing~”

I heard the voice of the girl who was holding the board. I was a little curious on why she would know the real name of Shizuku. However, my attention had moved toward the guy who was standing in front of me.

“What do you want?”

That sounded like a jianghu voice. I didn’t want to think that he would attend the same school as me. Because I was a useless guy so I could only response in a peaceful way.

“A...umm.....”

Shizuku looked like she was confused by my appearance.

When I didn’t know how to explain, I heard the surprise voice of Misaki-san.

“S-sagimiya-kun? Why are you here??”

Is that a surprise reaction or a happy reaction?

“What? Are you familiar with him?”

The guy with a jianghu voice asked back after having heard Misaki-san.

“Uh...umm.....is a classmate.....”

She looked a little nervous, didn’t know how to explain. At that time, another girl interfered.

“C’mon, just say it out? A classmate with us, Digust-sagi, a lolicon.”

Don’t say lolicon like it is my nickname.

“Then, is there a problem?”

Although the previous situation was pretty tense, but I couldn’t imagine it would turned out this way.

“Ah, no...I was only curious of why Shizuku...ah no, Ayahane is inside this room.....”

“Hm? Hm? What? Looked like you don’t know anything. We coincidently met each other so we only invited her who was a classmate but has not met for a while to sing together.”

“C-classmate ah!?”

I felt like I had just heard some very incredible thing. And that guy looked at me with a face ‘*Why is this guy suddenly this surprise?*’

“Ayahane Shizuku. My classmate, next to your class? Maa~ from the beginning of the school term, she has hidden inside her house so it is natural that you didn’t know. Hihahi.”

Everyone around had also laugh along with his stupid laugh. It made me feel a little bit irritate.

“Now, sit down. She is about to sing~”

He pushed my shoulder down on a sofa.

“Disgust-sagi, you are pretty lucky. You will now witness something pretty interesting.”

After I had sat down, a girl that I didn’t know the name of spoke.

What’s interesting? While I was thinking so, everyone around began to call

Shizuku's name.

"Shizuku♪ Shizuku♪ Shizuku♪ Shizuku♪"

Everyone was yelling and clapping. But it looked like only Misaki-san did not have any interest. She only showed a fake smile when following everyone.

Facing that situation, Shizuku was still standing still and holding the microphone uncomfortably. Because the white board was stolen so she could not talk, and I did not understand what she wanted to say.

"Shizuku...?"

When heard me calling, she suddenly displayed a surprising expression of determination and nodded at me.

She wants to say 'Let's do this' right?

If she did not sing right now then it looked like the group would not let her go. Shizuku chose a song with all her concentration.

After the act *swish*, all the noises disappeared.

The beginning melody began right after. That was a dignified melody, majestic, and also epic.

"What song is this?"

"Who know?"

Although everyone around was curious, but I knew this song!

The theme song of [Kenjou Daiguider], the eighth series was considered to be the masterpiece out of the Kenjou series, described the way of the super robot army, the [Kenjou Bakutan]!

Shizuku adjusted the microphone with her small white fingers and raised it closer to her pink lips.

My throat escaped a gulping sound in anticipation. Because this was the first time I hear her real voice.

The beginning melody had finished, the most anticipated moment had arrived.

When Shizuku gathered her breath, I saw her chest expanded.

Right afterward—

“Dadada, dadada, daiguider! Dadada, dadada, daiguider!”

Without suspicion, this was the lyric of the song [Kenjou Bakutan]!

However, everyone around all looked at her with eyes filled with surprise. Not surprise because of the lyric of the anime song. But surprise because of her voice.

Even I was not an exception.

How to say this, I could not imagine with her sickly figure—

Her-voice-sounded-like-anime-voice

If I had to compare her with other seiyuu then her level is not lower than the Fourth Empress Miracle Loli Voice. Initially, I thought that was the sound coming from the speaker itself. Because inside ZX, she had used the voice changing function to made her voice deeper, so the difference between reality and virtual was huge. I could say it like that.

No need to listen anymore, that was enough to know, that was a very beautiful voice.

While I was still recovering from my surprise, a wave of voices exploded.

“Gyahahahahahahahahaha!! No way!! Hikhikhi!”

“Fuhahahaha! Ahahahahahaha! Truly is Ayahane, so funny!”

“Kukuku, where is that voice come from? Ahaha, oi... my stomach hurts! Fuhihihishi!”

“Guhu, I-look like my funny level has exceeded Max level!?”

Beside Misaki-san and I, everyone was laughing all over the sofa. Of course, those were responses to the singing voice of Shizuku. At this time, there were only laughing sounds mixed with the melody, the singing sound had disappeared. When I looked clearly, Shizuku stood frozen like a rock, hand still holding the microphone.

“Shizu.....ku?”

I saw her being unusual. The microphone in her hand was shaking, similar as her lips. The cheeks flushed, eyes looked a little wet.

That figure, that face, that sight, I had never seen Shizuku looked like that before. Scare, embarrass, regret, sadness, a lot of emotions were showing on her. Right now, to me she looked like a very weak creature.

“I... oh not good~ I will die~ my stomach hurts so much hi hi—”

Everyone was laughing around Shizuku enough to showed tears. Looking at that scene caused me to feel unhappy, very hard to describe, liked my heart was being affected. As if a fire had just burned inside me.

Something was urging me to slowly stand up.

“.....over the line?”

“.....eh?”

Everyone around looked like they had heard my voice, I repeated one more time.

“Doesn’t that stepping over the line?”

“Hah? What did you just say.....?”

They looked at me with faces as if I was a rare creature. It made me furious.

“I SAID ‘DOESN’T THAT STEP OVER THE LINE?’, ARE YOU GUY DEAFED!?”

Finally, I yelled out. When everyone realized that the atmosphere was abnormal, they all became silenced. Shizuku looked at me with a puzzled expression.

“W-what? Why are you suddenly yell out like that...”

The girls looked at me with uncomfortable eyes. Not able to endure this atmosphere, the flashy guy back then spoke up.

“What’s wrong with you?”

He looked at me with flustered eyes.

Looked like previously I had lost control over my mood so I had yelled out like that. Now I had calmed down and talked normally.

“What I want to say it, how could you make fun of somebody like that? Can you guys sing like that attractive voice? Isn’t it very good? Isn’t that a talent? Who know maybe she will become a seiyuu. A wonderful talent. Then why are you laughing at a talent like that? Are you guys jealous?”

“Uh no...the reason is.....”

He fluttery answered.

“Then stop this stupid act right now.”

“.....eh?”

After saying so, I pulled back the white board from the hand of a girl that I did not know the name of. They were still bewildered with the face (°Д°), only Misaki-san looked at me worriedly, but I did not care about anything else at the moment.

Walking toward Shizuku, I said a quick sentence.

“Let’s go.”

Although she was still out of it but I held her fragile hand and pulled her outside.

X X X

At the bench on the shopping district. Shizuku and I were sitting there. We had left the building and the karaoke store.

“Don’t those words I has said previously pretty epic?”

I talked about the matter a few minutes ago, but there was no answer. But that was natural. Because the white board was in my hand. Furthermore, I suddenly realized I was still holding her hand even now. I quickly released her hand.

“O-oi!? Ah ah r-right, this belongs to you.”

I handed her the white board. First, she put her hood on her head, then began to write something.

『A girl’s kidnapping and locked up incident.』

“Oi! When did I lock you up!? And besides, I do not have that intention!!”

『A girl's kidnapping incident.』

“There is no difference even if you erase a word like that!? But never mind... that's enough.....”

If only she opens herself up a little to the hero like in Shounen manga, it would be better, but in this case..... However, this is the usual Shizuku. Looked like she had calmed down with a flushed face.

“But it was truly a surprise. That was the first time I hear the voice of Shizuku.”

She embarrassingly looked at the ground.

“With a voice like that, you should have spoken out more?”

『Compressor.』

“Compressor, what's about it?”

『Complete.』

“Is that like ‘Aha, I did it. I had finished collecting all the trading cards!’ right?”

『Conflict.』

“All difficulty to understand explanations! Or normally said “Complex”!”

By the way, conflict = a fall out between parties.

(TN: The previous words that Shizuku wrote were in English and he was just explained it in Japanese.)

『Teehee』

“Showing emotions by words.....but hey, you don't have to draw a tongue to describe it!”

Haa...so tired.

“Maa, please stop writing these nonsensical things? Ok ok, I said something out of bound. Sorry.”

Surprise, a silence covered us. I could only hear the noise of the busy street.

After a while, Shizuku's hand began to move.

『You are ‘always’ like that.』

“.....always.....like what?”

Shizuku continued to write one more sentence beneath and raised it up.

『The day the guild was formed. Do you still remember?』

“Ah, of course I remember.”

After I had just answered, I immediately thought ‘oh damn’. But right now it was too late to regret.

Of course I still remembered the day the guild was formed. But that was nothing significant.

However, that was the memory of “Riel”. Knight-sama that I was right now completely didn’t know about that matter.

X X X

When I first logged into ZX, I was alone.

But then is there important about it? Which gamer is not alone when they first started out. However, while playing the game, I will get invited into a party, then when the interactions are fun, we will add each other into the friend list. Initially, I had followed that way. All those time I had always thought about ‘My friend list should be full~’. But reality was different from dream. I did not realize that whether in the real world or in the virtual world, to make friends, one’s social skills were all required things. That was also my blind spot!

Although it was natural that I did not have any friends in the real world that were girls, but now that I think about it, the number of guy friends that I had was also zero! Because of that annoying symptom that I abandoned my dream of becoming a riajuu and buried myself in the virtual world. Anyway, my goal was to become a “virtuajuu”, although that too was not optimistic.

(TN: A juxtaposition with ‘reajuu’, real world Riajuu. A virtuajuu is a riajuu of the virtual world.)

Everyday, after I logged into ZX, all I did was stood frozen on the town square. I did not have the courage to greet anyone. Of course, I stood there truly was to wait for a party invitation. And my Priest occupation was really important. The

healing ability was a very essential to a party, because no one went hunting alone when first started out. Then isn't Priest a very needed occupation?

They only need to join a party, once the number of party members is enough, then they can go out hunting. Although my mission was only to heal but the XP points I received were pretty plenty. However, at those moments, there was no conversation in the party. Because the thing that was called party was only a tool to level up.

In those parties, sometimes there would be people who greet. But most of the time, the male players all thought I was a girl in real life so they kept following me. Once I accepted one person into my friend list and thought there would be no problem, then from that day, I received a bunch of scam messages, continuously, causing me to delete them until my arms hurt. But once I thought if I confess 'Actually, I am a guy' then would I be able to make friend. It usually took sometimes for me to erase my guilt once I deceived someone.

Because of that reason, my friend list was always empty. And every day I had nothing to do except to standing on the town square. I slowly lost my interest in the game. *Should I give up this game?* That was the first time I thought so.

I always stood at the same place to wait for party invitation. Standing next to a memorial liked a wall of stone, I saw at the opposite of the memorial, there was a girl avatar standing waiting for something like me. But that was not the first time I saw her. I saw her every day I had been standing here.

What is she waiting for? How long has she been standing there? Hasn't she fallen asleep? I thought of many things.

A day later after I had logged in, she was still standing there with the same posture as yesterday like usual. A simply strange girl.

While I was curiously looking at the figure underneath the shadow of a column, her eyes suddenly turned this way. *Then she has not fallen asleep. If she has been standing there every day then she should already have realized my existence.*

What should I do? I thought. Thinking this was some sort of destiny, I focus all of my courage to greet her.

“Good afternoon. I have been paying attention. You always appear here at this time, right?”

“Don’t talk to me so familiar. Because I am not free.”

A cold gaze penetrated through me. I had tried my best by she treated me that way. I regretted having started a conversation with her.

“However I look, you still seem pretty free?”

I didn’t know what else to do besides replying to her.

Immediately after, she slowly stepped forward from under the shadow of the column.

“Retract that sentence immediately. Aren’t you also standing here every day on the same place?”

“Then we are the same regarding this matter! But in my case, I am waiting for a party invitation. But you, you are only standing, right? I have not seen you move for the past days.”

“Hmm, thinking about what you have just said then.....truly shameless. You thought that your occupation is useful so sooner or later there will be a party to invite you, right. So pity for choosing this occupation with a healing skill just for that goal.”

“G-grrrr.....”

“I was right on the mark right.”



"Umm, so what's about it? But it's still better than..."

"Are you about to say better than no invitation? This is called pot calling a

kettle black.”

“Um...that metaphor also insulted you!”

“Hmm, so we are just the same type of people. I am just surveying the people around here.”

“Did you forget what you have just said!? But, what? Survey??”

“Right, isn’t human a type of organism most likely to expose their true self in a world with a more definite goal than the real world? So I stand here to survey. People who only know to bury their heads in game’s goal or only form relationship with people they can take advantage of etc... I have all rejected.”

“Sounds good, but to the end that just means you don’t have any friends, right?”

A moment of silence.

“The degree of accuracy and fairness of my surveillance will decrease if I have a friend.”

“Even if you said so but that is still the truth.”

“Therefore I did not want to converse politely with a person like you...”

“Haa? Are you still talking like that?”

“Aren’t you mistaken about something?”

And so, the argument began, I struggled to keep this going. When she was declared the winner, the sky had begun to brighten in the real world.

From that day forward, every time I logged in, I went to the memorial stage. And every time, I always argued with her, to the degree that there was a rumor ‘There are two people performing *kakeaimanzai* on the stage!’ around the sever.

(TN: kakeaimanzai – a type of skit where two people talking fast to each other.)

If there were a guild house, we would not bring so much attention to the people around. Thinking so, our two people contributed money to buy a small guild house. Of course, the requirement to buy was “The buyer must be the

guild creator”, and so our guild was formed at that time. Of course she was the guild head. And so our guild began with two members.

『You are ‘always’ like that.』

Returning to the line from before. But there was one more line beneath it.

『You are ‘always’ like that. Always get dragged into my troubles.』

I did not response. *Right now, how could I have known about those things.* She continued to write one more line.

And this time—that line caused me to open wide my eyes.

『The guild that I have right now, all was because of the normal Riel.』

I looked at Shizuku’s face right above the white board. She immediately moved her embarrassed gazes away. Immediately, I felt something heavy on my shoulder.

Shizuku had tilted her head on my shoulder.

I was so surprise that I forgot my symptom.

But the thing that still shocked me was the word ‘Riel’ in the sentence.

When saw it, I did not know what to say...

“How...how do you know that I...am Riel?”

When I was asking slowly, although embarrassed but she still tried to turn her round eyes toward me. Her eyes looked down on the center location—

Just like that, I felt my heart began to beat really fast. Silky hair slightly shaking, white skin on a flushed face, lips red like an apple. My figure was reflected inside her black pupils, causing me to feel disappear into them. And then at that time—

“Everyone knows that.”

“.....eh?”

Suddenly I heard a voice coming from behind. Surprised before that reply, I hurriedly turned around.

That was the voice of Hime.

Standing next to her were the remaining members. Everyone had their hands on their hips, eyes staring at me. For that reason, Shizuku and I hurriedly separated from each other and fixed our postures.

“Truly, causing us to look for so long. You guys suddenly disappeared without us noticing.”

“S-sorry.....but hey? About Riel.....everyone knew? Eh...eh??”

While I was bewildered, every member placed their hands on my shoulder and spoke up at the same time.

“““Maa~ calm down, Riel.”””

“W-what.....IS THIS ABOUT!?”

Discovering a horrifying truth, I yelled out with a voice that sounded truly stupid.

Chapter 9: Not Good, Knight-sama is Knight-sama

◆Online◆

The afternoon after the offline meeting. Guild house.

The conversation between the members, which was the main topic of today.

“Exposing it like that, you were too careless.”

Sitting on the table in a vulgar manner, Hime reproached Shizuku. Looked like she was really angry. Sitting on the chair, Shizuku lifted her face to look at Hime with an irritated gaze.

“What about you, didn’t you cross that dangerous bridge that no one knew about?”

“T-that was not my fault. That was totally Knight-sama’s fault!”

“M-me?”

She pointed her finger at my direction, who was sitting on the opposite side of all the girls. By the way, I was looking like Knight-sama right now.

“That’s right, because of you that a lot of things has happened.”

“H-hah.....”

I did not know what to say.

After that, I realized the situation. Everything had become clear. All the girls said that right at the first meeting in SWO, they had known that Riel was a guy. When I asked ‘*how did you guy know?*’, they answered ‘*don’t look down on women’s instincts.*’ They had even added ‘*guys can never identify nekama.*’

From the beginning, every member had pretended like they didn’t know.

When I asked why would they do that then—

Hanging out with each other online, after a while we would want to meet in real life, that was normal. But in Riel’s case, if the statue as a nekama was

exposed then it would be complicated, I might have left the guild because I would be freaked out. Thinking so, the girls had formed a plan to “Knight-samification” me.

Everything began when Ricotta stole my account ID from my desk drawer.

The members took turns to train Hugues, then let that avatar join the guild. To be clearer, every member was Hugues, old Knight-sama.

Looks like everyone cares for me. I am truly appreciated it. However...you didn't need to make the level to be this high.....

“Maa, I don't know how to express this, here!”

I bowed my head to show my gratitude.

Although everything is going great but.....I think there is one more unsolved problem.

That's right.....I still do not get 'it' back.

“Ah.....there is one more thing.....”

“What's wrong?”

Hime looked at me with an uninterested gaze. At that time, Shizuku interrupted”

“What? You want to know my BWH measurements?”

“Who would want that!?”

‘Can't you be serious for a moment?’, although I was about to say so but fortunately, I stopped myself in time.

That was close.

“Ah, uhm.....can you guy return my avatar.....”

“Your avatar??”

Everyone repeated as the same time.

“Ah no, I meant Riel! Riel!”

When I made it clear, everyone started to speak with distorted faces.

“What are you saying? Riel has become a person of the past, what else?”

“Riel-chan will always exist in our hearts~”

“Knight-sama will always just be Knight-sama nya~”

“What the heck are you saying? If you stop being Knight-sama, I’ll spread your poem around immediately.”

“Eh? Wait a sec!? Are you guy joking!?”

After that, I had to struggle with them.....

After a while of arguments, I was allowed to take back Riel with the condition of “continue to be Knight-sama.”

Ah right, after that karaoke night, everyone finally discovered my part-time job. But that is a story for another time.

◇Offline◇

Right after I logged out of SWO, I received a message. It was from Hugues.

Now that I think about it, I still haven't heard of who is the one sending these messages.

I opened up the message while still feeling a little disgusted.

[Title] Je t'aime

[Sender] Hugues[kishisama666@motmail.co.jp]

[Receiver] Keita [wan_U-x-U@pocomo.co.jp]

[Seem like you think everything is over, but ‘that confession’ of mine——that was real?]

‘That confession’.....ah, surely this is about that matter with Riel from before?

But, if this is the case...this would mean...um.....

What does it mean??

[Wait till next login!!]

Chapter 10: No good, the last part has been brought to the front

First of all, this is a 2D world (virtual world), not the 3D world (real world).

I figured that would be the first thing I needed to make clear for you guys first, that's all.

When I opened the guild house's door like usual, the inside has.....

A girl in a swimsuit.

Furthermore, that was the traditional school blue swimsuit.

“Uboooooeee!? W...what with the outfit!?”

Although I yelled at her, the girl in the swimsuit only looked back at me with a calm face. And of course, I knew her really well.

Her name was Shizuku, our guild's master.

Facing me – whose hand was still on the door, she walked toward me with a happy face.

Slender body, straight black hair moving slightly, eye shiny looked at me. And then she pretended to look dignify with both hands on her hip.

“Isn't it because I decided to wear scho-mizu?”

“No, that's not it.”

“It's a school swim suit.” *TN: scho-mizu(スク水) – short for school mizugi (スクール水着 – School swimsuit.)*

“It is not that I didn't know what's that stands for.”

“You're right...”

“If that was a compliment then I am not happy about it!”

The swimsuit stuck close to her body. Although every of her curves got clearly exposed, the most embarrassing place for me to look at was still her proud chest.

This equipment was difference from the theme of this world. I could bet that this was a paid equipment (paid by real money) or obtained from a special quest.

“Where is your normal equipment? Furthermore, what kind of crazy reasons made you want to wear this??”

“It’s weird... it’s not like I want to wear this.”

“Ok, ok, you wanted to is fine! You didn’t want to is also fine! And I am not afraid of your dignified face with hand on your chin like that!”

“Fu...so, what about this?”

Shizuku slightly tapped her finger in the air. A status window opened immediately. She adeptly operated on her equipment page.

When finished, the window disappeared, and a white halo started to gather on her body.

Immediately, the white halo condensed and changed into a new equipment.

Looked a little black.

“W-what is this...”

“Just like you see, it’s black stocking.”

She pulled on the fabric on her lap.

Right at this moment, I could see a clear white skin through the black stocking.

C-Couldn’t have believed that this was just a virtual program! Look just like real...

“What about the combination of black stocking and school swimsuit, do I look like a warrior now?”

“What!? When did I say that!? And I never have that kind of weird fetish!!”

“It’s funny. I want to talk while eating curry, but I also want to eat gyudon. So, let’s eat together. Nice idea.”

“Where did that gyudon menu come from!?”

“What kind of idea is that!?” , an angry voice appeared in the back of the guild house.

“Fufu, don’t think that Shizuku can do whatever she wants, nya!”

A girl with white hair and cat ears stepped out with an energetic voice. Whenever she skipped a step, her tail that was coming out of her hip wagged once.

Her name was Ricotta, a cute beast girl.

For some reasons, she was also wearing a school swimsuit and had a mischievous smile when looking at me.

“What Shizuku is doing is truly meaningless nyan. Traditional dressing way will not help her be liked more nya.”

Looked like Shizuku wanted to say something, but Ricotta’s attention was already switched to me.

She rotated her body on the spot to show off her cloth.

“Although there is still something I would like to say, but...first of all, why are you dressing like this?”

“Hahan, look like you have fall in love before the body wearing school swimsuit of Ricotta nya?”

“When did that happened! This is not love! Completely not it!”

“You are like that again nya. Stop lying to yourself nya? In truth, you really want to smell Ricotta’s hair right nya~”

“I do not!”

“If so, one hug as a reward nya.”

“What reward!? I don’t know why but I have a bad premonition if I reward you!”

“No other ways then nya. It’s okay, no need for hug, we will settle with a kiss nya.”

“That is even worse!”

“Huh, if so then I need to say it straight nya.....let’s make baby nya!”

“That is way too straight!”

“Aa, why do I feel like I have a headache...”

“Nyufufufu♪”

Ignored my struggled face, Ricotta still looked at me with an affectionate gaze.

“.....W...What else?”

“If you really want to know then nya...”

Right after she showed a bright smile on her face, an impact appeared on my waist. Ricotta have suddenly clung onto it.

“What is this!? Quick, release me! W-why are you clinging so tight, a.....w-where are you touching! S-So uncomfortable!!”

“You guys!? W-w-w-w-w-what are you guys doing!?”

When I was trying to get free from Ricotta, a voice appeared from the direction of a table inside the room.

When I turned around, a girl was staring at us in embarrass. The name of the girl who looked like a rich lady was Hime.

With her pointy ears stood straight and messy blond hair, she pointed her shaking finger toward our way.

“Y-you pervert cat! Quickly release your hands!!”

“No way nya. Besides, Ricotta doesn’t think that Hime’s dressing style is better than Ricotta nya. That kind of equipment with suspicious defense capability like that, only pervert girls who like to show off would wear such a thing nya.”

“P-p-p-pervert girls...!? B-be quiet! It is because I only have this one equipment that look like swimsuit so I have no choice!”

Facing with Ricotta’s rebuke, Hime started to feel embarrassed so she could only turn her head down.

Her equipment looked just like a normal bikini, but also has shoulder pads, hand and leg guards.....I could only say that this was a Bikini Armor.

Although its exposure rate was fairly high, but I thought getting called a pervert girl was still a little too much.

But...why do I have to pay attention about this?

Right then, Hime's gaze and my met coincidentally.

"Just now, y-you just check out my chest, right!?"

Hime used to hands to cover her chest, looking at me with a red face like it was about to explode.

"I did not look, did not, did not look!"

"Then why did you have to repeat it three times, so suspicious..."

"I really did not!"

"Liar, you really have looked, you really have already looked!"

"But, isn't it really hard to not look at other's outfit when you are close to them, right?"

.....

"I...in the end I still did not look!!"

I just dug my own grave.

Hime's cheeks expanded in anger.

I just opened the guild house and a bunch of things happened. I didn't understand any of these.

Talk about things I didn't understand, why did everyone wear swimsuits??

When I was thinking about it, the last troublesome character had also appeared.

"Fueeeeeeee...H...Hime-chan..."

From deep inside the guild house, I could hear a weak voice like crying.

The owner of that voice was begging for help from inside a carton box.

Her eyes were wet, her wavy hair was shaking in fear.

The name of this seemingly gentle girl was Mashu. And she was also wearing a swimsuit like everyone else. But in her case, from the first glance, I could tell that her cloth was way different from three people before.

That was because...

Those were underwear!?

Or in a more exact definition, those were things that would become underwear if one were to strip off of all the accessories.

But when looking at “this place” and “that place”, I felt like as if those clothes were not fitted to her body. Plentiful bust that was as dangerous as her hip. All of these staring made her even more embarrassed, she used one hand to cover her chest.

“.....dunuo!?”

My head became empty and turned to stone before this erotic scene. And Hime let loose a surprise sound next to me.

“W-why are you dressing like that!?”

“B-because I do not have any swimsuit-like equipment...only this set...”

“Then it is ok for you to not wear one!”

“Bu-but...because everyone was wearing it, uuu.....”

Tears dropped on Mashu’s eyes were about to roll down.

“U-understood! Let me find something for you to change...”

Suddenly Hime stopped her sentence. That was because she realized my eyes was sticking close to Mashu.

“...I-idiot! Stop looking!”

“ue, what happened!?”

My sights were suddenly covered by Hime’s two hands. But it was not effective as I could still see through the cracks between her fingers. I could hear Shizuku’s whispering “really is attractive lol” when looking at Mashu’s erotic

body.

At that moment, Ricotta used that chance to cling onto my body once more, mouth saying “kyakya”.

“Hey!? What are you trying to do in this confusion!?”

Hime yelled at Ricotta’s ear.

But the thing that I was most worry about was her chest sticking close to my arm.

Aa...I thought I can have a peaceful life in this virtual world. But now it seemed to be impossible.....

Now, let’s sum up the situation.

When I just came to the guild house like usual then there were 4 girls in swimsuits (even though one of them was in underwear) waiting there. They in turn approached or clung onto my arm...

It was really weird, right? Furthermore, you must be curious on how I was stuck in this situation?

Then why don’t we turn back a few weeks ago —